

# THE TIMES

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## Welsh party on verge of civil war

# Old Labour challenge to party chiefs

By James Landale, Political Correspondent

THE Labour leadership was facing a crisis last night after failing in its latest attempt to force Rhodri Morgan to quit the race to be the First Secretary of the Welsh assembly.



Morgan refused to step aside for Alun Michael

The party in Wales was on the verge of civil war as Mr Morgan, the "old Labour" candidate defeated last month by Ron Davies, insisted that he would not step aside for Alun Michael, the new Welsh Secretary, even though attempts will continue this week to stop him becoming Labour's official candidate.

All recent polls have shown Mr Morgan to be more popular and far better known than Mr Michael, who was promoted after Mr Davies resigned.

Mr Morgan declared yesterday that Ian Paisley had a greater chance of becoming Pope than he had of agreeing to a "stitch-up" that would allow Mr Michael to have the top job ahead of him.

The Cardiff West MP said that he was overwhelmed by the popular support he was receiving and made clear that an contest could be avoided only if Mr Michael stood down.

But it is clear that Labour leaders in Wales are trying to

choose a method of selecting their candidate that will minimise Mr Morgan's chances.

Mr Morgan wants a straight one member, one vote election that will enable to capitalise on his popularity. But the leadership is likely to stick with the electoral college system that saw Mr Morgan defeated by Mr Davies last time.

That gave a third of the votes each to the unions, MPs, and party members. MPs and unions are more likely to follow the leadership's wishes.

Meetings were held in Cardiff throughout the day as party officials sought to agree a method by which the prospective leader could be selected.

They promised that whatever was agreed would not be a

London "stitch up". But they failed to reach agreement and will meet again this week.

Mr Michael, Mr Morgan and a third contender, Wayne David - the former leader of Labour's Euro-MPs - also met senior officials to see if a possible "dream ticket" could be found, but while the meeting was "cordial", it was inconclusive.

Last night Mr Morgan said that a ballot of some sort was inevitable, adding that he was the only official candidate at the moment, since Mr Michael had yet to be selected even as an assembly candidate.

Asked if a "dream ticket" was out of the question, he said it could not be ruled out because it was still possible for Mr Michael to stand down.

Mr Michael meanwhile began his own campaign by pledging greater autonomy for the Welsh Labour Party - an attempt to stoke claims that he was being "parachuted in" by the leadership in London.

In a letter presented to the Welsh executive, he expressed his concern at divisions between the party in Wales and the party in London and admitted that key decisions over Euro and assembly candidates had angered many party faithful in Wales. He promised to raise their concerns with Tony Blair.



Agriculture Minister Nick Brown on a business-as-usual visit to Devon farms yesterday

## Russian food shortage 'may endanger the West'

By Michael Binyon and Charles Bremner

RUSSIA is on the brink of severe food shortages that could pose a security threat to the West, intelligence sources have concluded.

The fears confirm Moscow's predictions that supplies could run out in weeks. Yesterday the European Commission proposed an emergency package of food aid worth £25 million to stave off starvation.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, has said that "any sane person must regard the situation in Russia as serious - as it is for the Europeans as well". He said all intelligence reports agreed that food supplies would run out; the only argument was whether this would be in a few weeks' time or in the spring.

Satellite intelligence pointed to March as the time when there would be localised shortages of staple foods. Mr Cook said this could have a "severe impact" on security in Europe.

Western intelligence services, especially the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington, spend much time and energy looking at satellite data from Russia to determine food supplies, seen as a crucial factor in the stability of the Moscow Government. Observations have already detected one of the worst grain and potato harvests for years. Supplies can be estimated by the loadings on lorries and trains.

The worry in Western capitals is that severe food shortages could lead to demonstrations and rioting that might topple the Russian Government. This could lead to impre-

dictable political consequences as well as the possible flight of thousands of refugees seeking food and shelter in the West.

Soldiers, already badly paid and suffering shortages so severe that some conscripts have starved to death, could be among those worst affected, especially in Siberia. Aleksandr Lebed, the former general and governor of the huge Krasnoyarsk region, recently gave a warning of military mutiny unless food and wages were guaranteed. Neighbouring provinces are reported to be in an even worse state.

Moscow has privately begged Western governments for help to avert an immediate economic and political crisis, but no formal proposal has yet been made to Brussels.

Both sides agree that emergency aid would be limited and should not become institutionalised.

EU officials have given a warning that if aid found its way into the wrong hands, it could end up back on world markets, helping no one. Russians must promise not to re-export the food.

"We are taking this seriously," Mr Cook said. "We want to assist Russia through this winter. But the country has more than enough capacity to feed its own people in the long term."

The proposed aid would include a million tonnes of wheat, half a million tonnes of rye, 100,000 tonnes of pig-meat, 150,000 tonnes of beef and 50,000 tonnes each of milk powder and rice.

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## Prince describes his role as King

By Daniel McGrory

IN his clearest vision yet of how he sees the future of the monarchy, Prince Charles dismisses the idea that Britain should copy the slimmed-down, cheaper Scandinavian model.



"Well, it's good news for the Duchess of York"

He is against scaling back any of the great ceremonial occasions and advocates a "privacy zone" to protect the Royal Family's personal lives.

After the weller of books and documentaries to mark his 50th birthday, and the contradictory claims they have made in his name, the Prince cooperated with last night's Panorama programme on BBC television.

He refused to be filmed but in private briefings described at length how he will behave as king. On the throne, he says he will continue to support any cause he fancies and speak out on any issue he feels strongly about.

While he hopes to bring "a new informality" to the role he told the BBC this will not extend to saying any more about his relationship with Camilla Parker Bowles.

He spoke of his resentment at the "money-making industry" that has grown out of his

## Brown takes no action over 'outing' by press

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

NICK BROWN last night acted to bring a speedy end to controversy over his "outing" as a homosexual by ruling out any complaint about his treatment by the press.

In a clear attempt to draw a line under the issue, the Agriculture Minister made plain that he would be making no further comments on his private life and Downing Street praised the media's handling yesterday of his disclosure on Saturday that he was gay.

Their move was in sharp contrast to the attack on newspapers yesterday by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, who accused some as acting like "judge, jury and executioner". Mr Prescott and politicians from other parties called on the Press Complaints Commission to intervene over the methods used by newspapers to "out" politicians.

But Mr Brown's action last night made clear that neither he nor Tony Blair wants the af-

fair prolonged and, in effect, means there will be no Commission investigation. Lord Wakeham, its chairman, said yesterday that action would depend on a complaint from Mr Brown.

A poll last night backed Mr Blair's decision to stand by Mr Brown. An ICM survey in The Guardian showed 52 per cent believed that being openly gay was compatible with being a Cabinet Minister, with 33 per cent saying it was not.

Downing Street sources said Mr Prescott had been referring to the "outing" of politicians rather than the way papers had handled the news yesterday, although he is known to have strong feelings about the press and the way it has covered his family.

Last night a spokesman for Mr Brown said that he "has been very touched by the support he has received from close colleagues and from the public, including farmers. He is de-

termined to get on with the job that the Prime Minister has entrusted him to do and has no intention of making a complaint about the press coverage or of commenting further on his private life."

Downing Street took a low-key approach yesterday. It made plain that Mr Blair will continue to allow gay ministers to maintain privacy over their sexuality. Sources emphasised that ability would be Mr Blair's sole criterion in judging who should be in his Cabinet and Government.

"Most people feel they are entitled to some sort of privacy. Some may wish to make public statements about their private lives. Others do not," the Prime Minister's spokesman said.

The Agriculture Minister yesterday conducted a business-as-usual tour of the West Country, visiting hard-pressed Devon farmers to discuss the crisis in agriculture.

## All-hours pubs for New Year

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

ROUND-THE-CLOCK drinking in pubs and clubs on New Year's Eve would be introduced from the millennium under government proposals announced yesterday.

Pubs and other licensed premises are likely to open non-stop for 36 hours over the millennium - from 1am on New Year's Eve until last orders on New Year's Day. But ministers are proposing the concession should be extended to cover every New Year's Eve in the hope that it will reduce binge drinking in the last few minutes before closing time.

George Howarth, Home Office minister in charge of liquor licensing, said: "New Year's Eve is already a special occasion for many people, and the start of the millennium will be a particularly important event."

He said that he expected most licensed premises would want to stay open well beyond normal closing time for par-

ades to mark the beginning of the year 2000.

Mr Howarth added that the Government thought it was time to ease licensing laws for New Year's Eve in future. "A general relaxation of normal hours for each New Year's Eve would remove a significant

burden from the licensed trade.

It would also benefit the courts and the police service who have to consider each application.

Last night, the proposal was welcomed by the brewing industry. John Tomlin, of the Licence and Morning Advertiser, said he did not think extended hours would lead to more public disorder. "There may well be fewer incidents," he said.

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# Peter's kippers will surely come home to roost

Ironic is not quite the right word for the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Peter Mandelson: but he speaks as though his remarks are not to be taken on the obvious level; as though nothing is what it may seem. His trademark is the wink. He performs with the showily conspiratorial aplomb of a stage magician. You can almost smell the smoke.

Thus when Mr Mandelson told the Tories yesterday that their failure to share his enthusiasm for the Millennium Dome was due to a lack of patriotism (he emphasised the word) it would be tempting to

treat this as an outrageous slur; tempting but wrong. Mandelson knew very well the charge was outrageous, did not really mean it, and takes pleasure in shocking us by making it. There is something panopticonic about Mr Mandelson. "Ooh you are awful, Peter — but we like you."

One of the traps of political life is that in time a politician comes to believe his own propaganda: Lady Thatcher finally succumbed to hers. Tony Blair has to his. But Peter Mandelson shows absolutely no inclination to believe a word. He positively delights in the absurdity of the poses he strikes.



POLITICAL SKETCH

Consciously or otherwise, the attempt is to separate the politician and the man.

The Industry Secretary was appearing yesterday wearing his Millennium Experience cap. One by one, backbenchers tilted at the elegantly-tailored windmill. Michael Fabricant (C, Lichfield) asked a shrewd question about the contractual terms (or lack of them) upon which private companies sponsor the Dome; Man-

delson gave the shrewd answer: a string of wry vanities. An eloquently scornful Austin Mitchell (Lab, Grimsby) complained that what had been billed as a celebration of British history had degenerated into "a mammoth piece of commercial hucksterism".

Totally ignoring Mr Mitchell's question, Mandelson offered so shamelessly wide-eyed an encomium to the Millennium Experience's "Children's Promise" pledge scheme — involving "seven children's charities" — that the implicit parody of the US evangelist will have left TV viewers searching their screens for a telephone number for credit-card pledges. Blair would have meant it; Mandelson was sniggering at himself.

Lawrie Quinn (Lab, Scarborough & Whitby) put in a Millennial plug for a Whitby brewery and Whitby kippers. So "magnificent" were the products of Whitby, warbled Mandelson, almost rolling his eyes, that he wished he could move the whole of Whitby into the

Dome. Another Mandelson classic: its distinguishing characteristic being that the reference could be sold to two different markets in two different wrappers. For the provincial market (and *Whitby Gazette*) this was "Dome Minister praises Whitby". For the illuminati of our Westminster political class, however, the headline was "Peter sneers at Whitby".

It was a polished performance. If Mr Mandelson did not, before leaving the Chamber, twirl a moustache or execute a stylish bow — if he did not quite catch a flash of scudlet in the lining of his cloak —

then he invited us to imagine it. Once, John Biffen and the late Nicholas Budgen used the implicit wink to keep our respect and their sanity. But the most accomplished practitioner was Harold Macmillan.

"Supermac," however, never let us never let the horny-handed sons of toil guess at another version. Mandelson's hubris is in the mockery. We loved the joke about Whitby kippers, but how long can you keep the joke from Whitby? Mandelson risks the fury, scorned, of that kipper-producing part of Britain which would not know the meaning of *classe politique*.

Britain's farmers could be exporting beef by next spring. Nick Brown, the Agriculture Minister, predicted during a tour of the West Country. Beef exports have been banned by Europe since March, 1996.

Mr Brown said he hoped that EU agriculture ministers would approve a proposal for the lifting of the ban at a meeting on November 22 and 23 in Brussels. "I am not going to pretend that would be easy. There is a surplus of beef in Western Europe at the minute, so we are going to have to fight very hard to get back into those good markets that we have lost, but I am confident the industry can do it," he said.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Beef ban could go by spring

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#### Sex change bid

Three transsexuals are seeking to overturn North West Lancashire Health Authority's decision to refuse to pay for sex-change operations. The three have already started "gender reassignment" treatment and are now in an "acutely distressed mental and physical state", a High Court judge was told.

#### Healthy profit

The Church of England has made £1 million a month profit from the company producing the impotence drug Viagra. The Commons was told. Labour's Stuart Bell, replying for Church Commissioners, said that investments in Pfizer had "turned over a recent profit of £3 million over three months".

#### Jones plea rebuff

Magistrates in Hemel Hempstead yesterday rejected a plea from the footballer Vinnie Jones to let him off community service work. He was given a further 40 hours' community service for completing only four hours of a 100-hour order imposed after he was convicted of attacking a neighbour.

#### Meningitis fear

Three girls at a day nursery with 50 children have caught meningococcal meningitis. The children, aged 15 months, 2 and 3 are in hospital. The Ladybird nursery in Fenstanton, Cambridgeshire, has closed for a week and children at the school are being given antibiotics as a precaution.

#### Colours struck

The traditional wearing of Cambridge University's black and scarlet gowns only on formal days is to end after academics voted to allow other gowns to be worn. The University Council said the ancient rule gave the impression "the university regards non-Cambridge doctorates as inferior".

# Jews now free of persecution, says Jakobovits

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

LORD JAKOBOVITS, the former Chief Rabbi, said last night that Jewish communities worldwide were now free from persecution for the first time in more than 2,000 years.

Lord Jakobovits said that Jewish communities have made "colossal achievements" since the Holocaust.

He was speaking at British Jews gathered at Westminster Central Hall in London, to mark the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht, when Jewish businesses across Germany were burnt and looted.

His comments were supported by other leading members of the Jewish community and a leading Jewish think-tank. Lord Jakobovits said: "Jewish fortunes have altogether been reversed in the intervening years [since Kristallnacht]. Maybe we are not sufficiently aware of this unmatched change in the Jewish experience."

"For the first time in over 2,000 years of the Jewish experience, there is not a single Jewish community anywhere in the world where Jews are officially persecuted because they are Jews. On the contrary, we have gained recognition and esteem to the extent to which

we cultivate our heritage and pursue our historical assignment."

Dr Jonathan Sacks, the current Chief Rabbi, said yesterday that he shared the view of Lord Jakobovits that the problems facing Jewish communities throughout Europe were now transformed. He pointed to the recent growth of synagogues and Jewish schools in the countries of the former Soviet Union.

Dr Sacks said: "The challenge of the future is indifference within rather than hostility from outside the Jewish community."

Antony Lerman, director of the Institute for Jewish Policy Research, said: "Lord Jakobovits has expressed similar views to those expressed at recent seminars run by the Institute. Research under way at the Institute points to similar conclusions."

Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain, of the Maidenhead Reform synagogue, said: "I would cautiously agree with Lord Jakobovits. It is certainly true that Jews are much more at ease in the societies in which they live than ever before. However, it is a little bit optimistic to say there is no cor-

ner of the Earth where Jews are persecuted. There are Jews in the former Soviet Union who are very worried about the right-wing movements there. The few Jews left in Syria are not very happy. And in France, the growth of the Right Wing at a local level is causing difficulties for some Jews.

"But certainly, it is much better to be Jewish in the second half of the 20th century than at any other period in the last 2,000 years."

Lord Jakobovits's assertion is likely to run into opposition from Jewish activists, who complain of discrimination — verging on persecution — in a number of countries (Michael Binyon writes).

In particular, Jews in the Arab world and Iran have long come under suspicion of loyalty to Israel, and are barred from full political rights in several countries. The small Jewish communities in Iraq and Syria have often complained of harassment and discrimination. Entry into Saudi Arabia is difficult if a person's religion is given as Jewish.

Day of shame, page 15



Clegg, right, being driven to court yesterday in Belfast for the opening of the hearing

## Clegg returns for retrial

LEE CLEGG, the paratrooper convicted of murdering an 18-year-old passenger in a stolen car, returned to Belfast yesterday to begin a fresh attempt to clear his name (Martin Fletcher writes).

The 30-year-old lance corporal sat impassive in the dock for the hour-long opening session of a retrial expected to last at least four weeks.

Nationalists were incensed last February when Northern Ireland's Appeal Court quashed Clegg's original conviction for the death of Karen

Reilly. "We feel very, very bitter," Sean Reilly, Karen's father, said at yesterday's hearing.

Nationalist anger was further inflamed when Mark Wright and James Fisher, the two Guardsmen jailed for murdering another Catholic teenager, were allowed to remain in the Army last week. About 20 demonstrators led by Peter McBride, the victim's father, waved placards outside the court.

But Clegg's supporters were optimistic. "We are quietly confident that a great wrong will be righted," Colonel Peter Field, former commander of the 1st Battalion the Parachute Regiment, said. Clegg's mother and stepfather were also in court yesterday.

Miss Reilly was shot and killed as the stolen car failed to stop at an army checkpoint in West Belfast in September 1990. The driver, Martin Peake, 17, also died. Clegg was found guilty of murder in 1993 and jailed for life. He had two appeals rejected.

British supporters collected more than a million signatures demanding his release and in 1995 Sir Patrick Maybaw, then the Northern Ireland Secretary, freed him on licence.

The Appeal Court eventually quashed Clegg's conviction and ordered a retrial in light of new forensic evidence suggesting he may have fired the fatal shot at the side of the speeding car, legitimately to protect his fellow soldiers.

Reginald Weir, QC, for the prosecution, said yesterday there was "no legal justification or excuse whatsoever" for the shooting. The car posed no danger to Clegg or any member of his patrol and "this must have been quite clear to them when they fired and continued to fire". Clegg's attempts to justify the shooting by claiming the car hit a soldier were "a subsequent invention to exculpate the soldiers who had fired when they began to realise the consequences of what they had done". The trial continues.

## Gales put northern Scotland in chaos

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

TORRENTIAL rain and gales gusting at up to 100 mph brought the north of Scotland to a virtual standstill yesterday, forcing airports to close and cancelling ferries.

The Western Isles and the Grampian region were the worst hit by the storms that blew in from the west Atlantic, bringing with them mountainous seas. Forecasters said the gales were thought to have caught the tail-end of Hurricane Mitch.

On Islay a 40ft section of embankment was washed away, damaging waterpipes and cutting off about 400 people. Temporary repairs were completed last night.

A Peterhead-registered fishing boat, *Sundari*, with five crew on board was drifting without power 15 miles north of the Butt of Lewis as high seas prevented Stornoway coastguards from attaching a tow rope. The gales hit ferry services, with most sailings to the Hebrides and the Northern Isles cancelled. The winds, that topped 60mph in the central belt in the morning and reached 100mph in the mountain areas of Grampian, also made driving hazardous. The AA issued warnings for the Eriskine and Forth road bridges.

Most plane and helicopters were grounded at Sumburgh Airport on Shetland. Scatsta Airport was closed.

Some 500 homes in Shetland had their phones cut off after a BT digital line failed.

A couple who went missing after a Sunday stroll were found by Grampian Police suffering from mild hypothermia near a ravine at Cragganuddy, near Fincastle, yesterday. Stephen Douglas, 36, and his wife Doreen, 35, from Stonehaven, Kincardineshire, were criticised for walking without proper navigational skills.

Forecast, page 26

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## Charles

Continued from page 1 relationship with Mrs Parker Bowles and told *Panorama* he was "exasperated" at the pressure to sort out his personal life.

The programme makers say the Prince "fully cooperated" with their documentary, *Prince Charles at 50: A Life in Waiting*. It showed him to be "a traditionalist" who sees no purpose in reducing the role of the Household Division or the Palace and suggests that when he is king the only changes will be ones of style rather than content.

The BBC insist they also had help from Palace courtiers and quoted a senior Buckingham Palace source as saying that the Queen does not think Charles is ready to be king. The unnamed source said the Queen believes that Prince Charles needs to sort out his troubled personal life before he ascends the throne.

If this aide is to be believed then the Queen has no intention of meeting Camilla and is opposed to the couple marrying. The aide told *Panorama* that Her Majesty takes the view the public would never stand for a Queen Camilla, nor want her as married consort to King Charles.

Palace insiders are dubious as to whether it was sensible for the Prince to have cooperated on any of the projects lined for his birthday. One palace source said "it seems confusion as to who he or his staff helped and who they didn't".

The Prince's adviser, Jonathan Porritt, says his personal life will not be a problem to his becoming king nor head of the Church of England. But a leading critic of the prince, Rev David Stretter of the Church Society, said his relationship with Mrs Parker Bowles was "a problem that had to be resolved" or he risked becoming "a lame duck king".



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# Jackson will

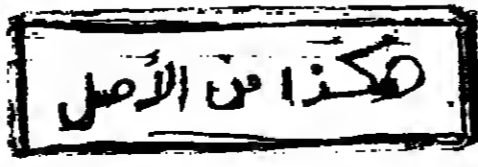
# Bishop of Midd

# Keys dropped in woods could belong to killer

KEYS found near the murder scene... The keys were found in a wooded area near the crime scene. Police are investigating whether they belong to the killer.

# Surviving the

Surviving the... This section likely contains a list of survival tips or news items related to the title.



# Jackson wins apology over paper's 'disfigured face' slur



Jackson: victory

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE pop star Michael Jackson won an apology from *The Mirror* newspaper yesterday after a six-year libel battle to prove his famous face was not "hideously disfigured and visibly scarred."

The settlement was agreed after an unprecedented move in which the singer agreed to allow his features, stripped of all make-up, to be examined for 40 minutes in an hotel suite in Los Angeles.

In 1992 *The Mirror* had described the singer's face — the subject of intense speculation over many years — as the "disfigured and scarred" result of repeated cosmetic surgery. It published a startling close-up photograph of Jackson, then 33, saying that he was a "scarred phantom whose face is covered with scar tissues, with a hole in his nose, one cheek higher than the other and an oddly sagging chin."

Jackson agreed to offer up his face for special scrutiny after being invited to do so by *The Mirror*.

The issue went to the Court of Appeal which said unless he agreed, he could not proceed with the libel proceedings which he launched over

*The Mirror* article. The issue was not whether Jackson has had plastic surgery, which was not in dispute, but whether it was fair comment to condemn his whole face — parts of which (such as his cheeks) have escaped cosmetic intervention — as "hideously disfigured and scarred."

The question has prompted many column inches — ranging from the shape of the singer's nose to the colour of his skin.

In 1993 Jackson, whose skin has noticeably lightened over the years, said that he had a skin disorder which destroyed pigmentation of the skin. He denied any kind of skin

bleaching. Jackson said in an interview with Oprah Winfrey, the chat show host, that the disorder was inherited through a "rogue gene" from his father and that using make-up evened it out. He also spoke of how he had had plastic surgery to change the shape of his nose and admitted he rarely looked in the mirror because he thought he was ugly.

To settle the dispute, a small Jackson entourage met the two teams of lawyers from Britain at the University of California in Los Angeles. The *Mirror* was Charles Collier-Wright, the newspaper's legal adviser, and a British plastic surgeon, Christopher Ward, while for Jackson were two lawyers from Olswang, the London law firm, Jackson's American lawyer and the singer's own physician.

Mr Ward, who is retired from full-time practice, examined the singer's face, with Jackson's own doctor in attendance, for about 40 minutes and with the benefit of special lighting.

Mr Collier-Wright recalled: "It was quite low key. I don't remember any body guards. Michael was wearing his usual clothes, black trousers and a red shirt. I think he was very courteous." Marcus Barclay, of Olswang, solicitor for the singer, said yesterday: "Obviously from his perspective it was quite an imposition. But he was willing to go through with it in order to be able to pursue the proceedings."

The results of the examination are now in a confidential report before the court.

Mr Barclay told Mr Justice Popplewell in London yesterday that the litigation had been settled "amicably" on confidential terms. No mention was made of any damages and it is thought unlikely *The Mirror* paid any, although it probably paid some legal costs.

# Bishop reveals sins of Middle England

A BISHOP drew aside the lace curtains of his affluent, middle-class diocese yesterday to reveal wife-beaters, drug addicts and suicidal executives.

The Right Rev John Gladwin, Bishop of Guildford, said that the facade of wealth and prosperity in the stockbroker belt of Surrey had growing problems of social need and poverty.

"We are used to stories of urban deprivation but the words deprivation and Surrey rarely occur in the same sentence," he said, calling for the area to be viewed in a new light. "Surrey is the major part of my diocese, where deprivation tends to be well hidden."

The diocese is so concerned about the extent of social deprivation in a county more associated with the gin-and-Jaguar set that it has launched a "Neighbours in Need" campaign. The diocese also plans to conduct a poster campaign highlighting child drug-taking, domestic violence and homelessness.

Bishop Gladwin said the problems included a high divorce rate, domestic violence, above-average suicide rates in some parts of the county, drug addiction and loneliness. But the "stiff upper lip" culture still meant thousands of people were still too proud to ask for help.

The problems emerged in two surveys, by the diocesan Board of Social Responsibility and Surrey County Council. Among their findings was that

## Wife-beating, drug addiction and suicide stalk suburbia, says the Church. Ruth Gledhill reports

Wife-beating, drug addiction and suicide stalk suburbia, says the Church. Ruth Gledhill reports

nearby four in ten 15 and 16-year-olds had experimented with drugs; one in three women had suffered domestic violence, more than 35,000 disabled people in Surrey needed support and care; and more than 70,000 people had mental health problems.

With a huge proportion of Surrey's population commuting to London each day, leaving home in the early hours and returning late at night, people had no time to know their neighbours. "Although Surrey's picture-book villages look like close communities, this is often not the case," said Bishop Gladwin, who wants to raise £250,000 for the campaign.

"Much of it is hidden behind the facade of success and so those most at need feel completely isolated. The problems that our research has recurrently uncovered are the same as elsewhere in the country."

But the fact that this is Surrey with its stockbroker-belt image means these very real issues often get sidelined or swept under the carpet. Domestic violence is a big problem and its victims often feel trapped and very isolated.

"This county also has one of the highest divorce rates in England, which in turn has one of the highest in Europe. Drug abuse is very prevalent and especially worrying is the spread of recreational drugs use among schoolchildren."

He said that even the rich

sometimes needed help. "A healthy bank account does not immunise your family against disability or protect your children from experimenting with drugs."

"Considering that the United Kingdom has the highest divorce rate in Europe, family breakdown is a real problem for us. There is particular concern that boys from broken homes may lack role models."

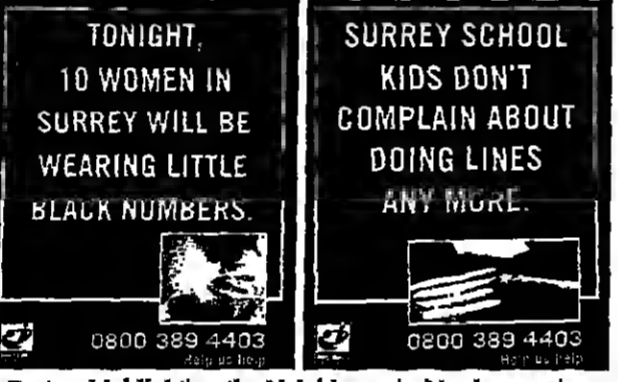
He drew attention to the finding that boys excluded from schools in Surrey outnumbered girls by three to one.

Domestic violence was "surprisingly prevalent", with one in three women being abused by her husband or partner. Some districts, such as Guildford and Tandridge, had "considerably more" suicides than the national average.

Bishop Gladwin said that people were reluctant to seek assistance. "There is a strong coping culture in Surrey. People think they ought to be able to cope, and they don't ask for help."

The Neighbours in Need campaign, launched at Guildford Cathedral, is intended to increase awareness of social problems within the county and to persuade more people to do voluntary work.

Daphne Plaskow, who runs a helpline for Surrey drug abusers, said: "Surrey has this image of people living isolated lives at the end of long drives, but few realise that it is frequently those with the biggest drives that have the largest problems."



Posters highlighting the Neighbours in Need campaign



The Right Rev John Gladwin says that the rich can be socially deprived too

# Murder charge GP faces committal

By RUSSELL JENKINS

A FAMILY doctor charged with murdering four of his elderly women patients will appear before magistrates today as police prepare to extradite three more bodies.

Harold Shipman, 52, is expected to be committed for trial by Tameside magistrates in Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester, on charges of murdering Kathleen Grundy, 81, and falsifying her will to make himself the main beneficiary.

Police are now investigating the circumstances surrounding the deaths of up to 116 patients over the last 14 years. The number of cases has risen sharply after concerned relatives contacted a local health authority helpline. Four women patients who died lived on the same road in Gee Cross, on the outskirts of Hyde. They include Mrs Grundy and Joan Dean, 75, a former extra in *Coronation Street*.

Greater Manchester Police is preparing to dig up the remains of three more women this week, bringing the total number of exhumations to nine since the inquiry was launched in August. The bodies of Irene Turner, 67, Jean Lilley, 48, and Alice Kitchen, 70, will all be exhumed by Thursday. They will be reinterred on the same day.

Dr Shipman, who runs a practice in Hyde, is also charged with murdering Blanka Pomret, 49, Joan Melia and Winifred Mellor, both 73.

# Keys dropped in woods could belong to killer

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

KEYS found near the body of Jennifer King, who was strangled on her way home from a disco, are likely to have been dropped by her killer, police said yesterday.

The two Yale-type keys, found during a search of the corpse where Miss King's body was discovered a week ago today, are the first solid clue. More than 20 copies have been given to police making house-to-house inquiries.

Miss King, 22, was killed as she made her way home to Warnley, a suburb of Bristol. Detective Superintendent Bill Davies said yesterday: "There is a very strong possibility that these keys belong to the person who killed Jennifer."



The keys that were found near Jennifer King's body

# Open verdict on lecturer who hanged himself

By PETER FOSTER

AN ACADEMIC who was sacked for allegedly plagiarising his students' work hanged himself from the window of his study as his girlfriend looked on, an inquest was told yesterday.

Yesterday at a hearing in Birmingham, Suzanne Orsler, 36, related how Ian Connell, a lecturer in television and media studies at Wolverhampton University with whom she lived, had become depressed after being dismissed for professional misconduct. After a disciplinary hearing he was sacked last May despite appealing against the decision.

Ms Orsler said that Dr Connell, 49, had become increasingly stressed about the prospect of ever finding academic employment again.

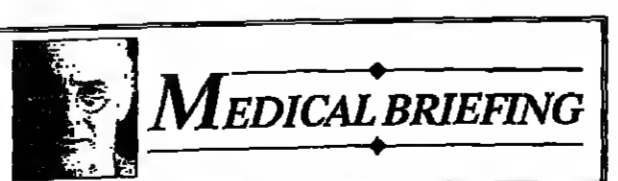
On June 29, Ms Orsler said, she had returned home from a night out with friends when her partner came into the bedroom. "He said 'I've got something to show you,' so I went with him up to the office in the attic. He walked to the side

# Surviving the millennium excess

IT IS good news for all hearty drinkers that the Government has decided that Baccus and the millennium can be toasted in style and that the pubs will stay open for 36 hours.

Statistics have shown that opening hours usually have little relevance to drunkenness, for if the bar is open only for a short time the regulars down their drinks that much faster. If drinks are served for a longer period, they just drink more slowly. However, it is a reasonable bet that New Year 1999 will disprove the statistical norm.

How can we survive a long evening's drinking so that we may not only welcome in the new millennium but actually remember its arrival? The secret will be to eat as one drinks, and to drink slowly. For the unaccustomed drink-



er, the human body metabolises alcohol at the rate of one drink an hour. If those celebrating drank no faster than this, they would remain sober enough to meet Jan Paisley or the local chief constable without exciting suspicion. Accustomed drinkers whose livers are still fighting fit can metabolise alcohol 33 per cent faster.

The choice of drink is also very important. Surprisingly, whisky, or other spirits, although 40 per cent alcohol, are more slowly absorbed than some much weaker wines. The spirits, when they

land in the stomach, shock the pylorus, the outlet of the stomach, into contracting so that the alcohol does not slip quickly through into the small intestine, where the alcohol is rapidly absorbed into the blood stream.

Alcohol is less speedily absorbed through the stomach lining. Some drinks, such as champagne, are reasonably strong but deceptively bland so that the stomach, like the naive drinker, is fooled and the drink rapidly passes, despite its strength, into the small intestine.

Binge drinking, whether for 12, 24 or 36 hours, has its risks. Evidence from Sweden shows that the admission of alcohol-related medical disorders increases with binge drinking with every type of drink except red wine.

Excessive quantities of red wine, like other alcoholic drinks, may encourage irregularity of the heart but dangerous blood clots are unlikely to block the arteries.

To make the best of the 36 hours, book your restaurant table now, do not be deceived by the apparent mildness of the champagne and, like a good long distance runner, pace yourself throughout the marathon session.

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

# Remember, if your business has 15-19 employees you may have to make some changes after 1 December.

From 1 December the employment provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act will be extended to cover businesses with 15 or more employees. You may need to consider making changes in your working practices, recruitment policies or workplace. If you have any queries act now. Call 0345 622 633, quoting TMS/TH2.

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SWIFTCALL

# Ad campaign tackles violence in the home

Ministers want to help traumatised child victims, reports Valerie Elliott

CHILDREN whose fathers are violent towards them or their mothers are being encouraged to report them to advisers on such problems, or to teachers.

Government advertisements intended to make domestic violence socially unacceptable are to be broadcast on television in Scotland over the Christmas period, and in the rest of the country next year. The campaign is part of the Government's new strategy on women's issues, which was unveiled yesterday by Baroness Jay of Paddington, Leader of the Lords and Cabinet Minister for Women, and Tessa Jowell, Women's Minister in the Commons, and which constitutes a departure from 1970s-style feminism.

One in five women suffers domestic violence in Scotland, and one in four women in England. Helen Liddell, Scottish Women's Minister, said yesterday that it was "the ultimate unreported crime", and knew "no barriers in class or loca-

tion". She suggested that the alcohol consumption and stress associated with the Christmas period sometimes triggered violence in the home.

Mrs Liddell said that the advertisements would show what appeared to be the perfect family. The father comes home from work, plays with the children, and then turns

on the mother because his supper is not on the table. Voices are raised, and the man challenges the woman's credentials as a mother and wife. As the row develops physically the horrified reactions of the children are highlighted. No violence is shown on screen.

Mrs Liddell said: "The film will focus on the look of fear

and horror on the children's faces. We need to get that message across behind the face curtains and to tell everyone they have a part to stop this abuse in the home.

"We want children to recognise that it is not acceptable and we want children in abusing households to recognise that help is there for them."

A telephone hotline number will be screened, and the advertisement will also suggest that children should not be afraid to speak out to teachers. Mrs Liddell emphasised, however, that the best people to deal with violence in the home were organisations with expertise in the problem.

Mrs Liddell also wants to reach women who are suffering silently at home at the hands of husbands and partners.

Lady Jay hopes to publish a document on the best projects round the country tackling domestic violence. Ministers are impressed with the work of various local authorities in is-



Baroness Jay with pupils at North Westminster Community School, where she launched the new initiative

suing battered women with mobile telephones and panic buttons so that they can summon help. In Manchester, schools have been provided with guidance on coping with pupils from violent homes. The group Rights for Women

praised the advertising campaign. A spokeswoman said it was "really important that domestic violence takes into account the impact of the abuse on children. I would also like there to be more opportunities for children to be heard. See-

ing violence has a terrible impact on them."

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, drew attention to the problem in his recent Green Paper on the family, which stated that in three out of five cases, where children suffered

neglect or abuse, their mothers were also abused. "Domestic violence can cause severe emotional and behavioural problems for children, who are often able to give detailed accounts of domestic violence and are traumatised," it said.

### WHEN DRYS CAME TO THE AID OF WETS

Feminists might have blamed a male chauvinist plot for the bosing down of journalists and officials who attended the launch of the Government's new strategy for women yesterday. The explanation was more prosaic, unscheduled intervention by a fire sprinkler (Valerie Elliott writes). The ministers, Baroness Jay of Paddington, Tessa Jowell and Helen Liddell escaped the deluge and were evacuated from the basement of the Commonwealth Club, near Trafalgar Square. But Anna Healey, adviser to Jack Cunningham, the Cabinet enforcer, Jackie Astley, IEN's political correspondent, and Robin Mountfield, Permanent Secretary at the Cabinet Office, were caught in the downpour. Ms Jowell organised a mop-up with paper napkins and ordered reinforcements, white linen tablecloths, arrived and the ministers carried on, enthusiasm unimpaired.

## Mother's role is best model for one girl

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

TERRI ROACHE, 16, who is studying A levels in chemistry, maths and theatre studies, has no need for Baroness Jay's proposed panel of celebrity role models.

The woman she looks up to most is her mother, Beverly File, who has brought up two children on her own while working as a nanny.

"Even though she may not be seen as successful in other people's eyes, to me she is the most successful person I know. It is her strength and her hard work that I really admire," Ms Roach said.

The fact that her mother had to cope with two daughters on her own, far away from her own family in Barbados, is a constant source of admiration and inspiration for Ms Roach. "She has worked so hard to pass on her strict moral values to me and my sister. Yet at the same time she is the kind of mother you can talk to."

Ms Roach, who met Lady Jay when she visited North Westminster Community School in North London yesterday, said it was insulting to girls to suggest that they might chose someone like Geri Halliwell, the former

Spice Girl, as a role model. "I don't look up to her. She has not worked really hard to get where she has in the same way that my mum has." Her other role models, she added, are people such as Harriet Tubman, a slavery abolitionist born in North America in 1820 who led 300 slaves to freedom after escaping from a plantation in Maryland in 1849.

Ms Roach said she had very few female role models, largely because in school she was "only really taught about men".

John Coleman, head of the Trust for the Study of Adolescence in Brighton, said that few teenage girls chose pop stars or other celebrities as role models. "The real influence over young girls comes from adults they come into contact with every day, such as their mum or a teacher," he said.

He added, however, that teenage girls would draw inspiration from seeing more women succeed in responsible positions, in Parliament or business. "We clearly do need to work harder as a society to provide routes for young girls to success," he said.

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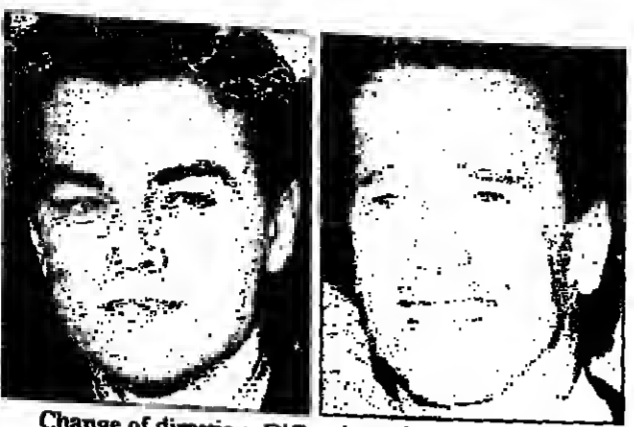
New film chief...  
D'Amico...  
Reports Carol Mideley

## Strong women

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# Sensitive heroes get censor's vote



Change of direction: DiCaprio and Schwarzenegger  
New film chief would rather watch DiCaprio than Schwarzenegger, reports Carol Midgley

BRITAIN'S new chief film censor has welcomed the trend away from macho heroes such as Arnold Schwarzenegger towards more sensitive role models like Leonardo DiCaprio.

Robin Duval, 57, who next year succeeds James Ferman as the director of the British Board of Film Classification, said that he had been uncomfortable about the number of gratuitously violent films such as *Eraser* and *Terminator* which had flooded the market in the 1980s and 1990s, making icons of actors such as Schwarzenegger and Sylvester Stallone.

He also said that he had not liked the violence in Quentin Tarantino's films *Reservoir Dogs* and *Pulp Fiction* and believed that Tarantino would soon need to find "another hole to come out of" creatively.

"I think Tarantino is an incredible talent, but I didn't particularly like the violence in those films. Having said that, I don't think *Reservoir Dogs* is as violent as its reputation suggests. It's very bloody but you



Robin Duval: "Over the last ten to 15 years, Hollywood has put out far more films in which violence is a main feature than I am comfortable with"

don't actually see a lot of the violence on screen," he said.

Mr Duval, currently the deputy head of programming at the television watchdog, the Independent Television Commission which regulates taste and decency, said that there seemed to be a "minor tidal movement" away from machismo films.

He said: "Personally I think that over the last ten to 15 years, Hollywood has put out far more films in which violence is a main feature than I am comfortable with.

"It is a Hollywood problem, however. It is not reasonable to turn to the BBFC and say 'It's your fault - you should have stopped this'. Now there is a movement away from the violent, macho heroes in the early Nineties. The Stallones and Schwarzenegers are all getting rather old and losing their charm.

"Hollywood is now moving towards less aggressive heroes like Tom Hanks and Leonardo DiCaprio who, let's be honest, is the opposite of machis-

mo." Hanks received acclaim for his portrayal of the gentle but slow hero *Forest Gump* in the Hollywood film, while DiCaprio played a similar part as an endearing, mentally retarded boy in *What's Eating Gilbert Grape?* and was the classic, non-aggressive hero in *Titanic*.

Mr Duval said that he would not single out any violent films in particular for criticism but objected more to their high numbers. "I didn't have any particular films in mind. The problem is where there is a flow of violent movies at once.

"These things are cyclical. It would be naive to think they [violent films] have left Hollywood for good, but I welcome the changing emphasis."

Mr Duval's favourite film is the 1956 classic western *The Searchers*, starring John Wayne. He also cited Ingmar Bergman's 1957 film *Smultronstället* (*Wild Strawberries*) as another favourite. "I must have seen *The Searchers* a dozen times or more," he said. "It is a great movie."

Mr Duval, a father of four daughters, is being followed into the industry by two of his children, now in their twenties. Polly Duval produces feature films for Channel 4, while Sophie Duval is an actress who has just finished making a Mike Leigh film about Gilbert and Sullivan.

It was under Mr Duval's reign that the ITC allowed Channel 5 to screen the extremely violent *Natural Born Killers*. However, he defended the decision explaining that it had been broadcast very late and censored in parts.

Mr Ferman, who he succeeds in January, has been in the job 24 years and has been heavily criticised for being too liberal as a censor.

Mr Duval said: "I think anybody that moves into a job likes to do things differently."

## Probably it won't be you, admits Camelot

By Carol Midgley

CAMELOT is seeking to improve the public image of the National Lottery with an advertising campaign emphasising the good causes it helps rather than the individual greed to which it appeals.

The lottery operator decided on a fresh approach after research showed the public wanted to know more about where their money was going and that they associated lottery handouts with controversial payments such as the £12 million for the Winston Churchill papers and the £78 million towards the redevelopment of the Royal Opera House.

Camelot is also abandoning the catchy "It Could Be You" slogan, and the pointing finger, which were devised by Saatchi and Saatchi. Dianne Thompson, of Camelot, said that the finger, though highly effective, had become "almost intimidating".

The campaign will highlight grants to local communities, such as the £66,000 which went to a brass band in Durham and the £140,000 paid to improve athletics facilities at the Terence MacMillan stadium in London. Four more local projects will feature in future commercials, and there will be versions for local radio.

The new slogan, devised by the advertising agency WCRS, is "Maybe, Just Maybe". Ms Thompson said that it was not being used to increase sales but to persuade people to keep playing the game in the knowledge that "even if they do not win a cash prize, everybody is a winner because lottery grants help the whole community". She said: "The hand of good fortune very much singled out the individual. I think the pointing finger became a bit intimidating in the end."

"The chances of winning the jackpot are very slim. We thought we should be more honest about what the lottery is. We want people to feel good about playing it."

Currently, 58 per cent of Britain's adult population play the lottery regularly, compared with 60 per cent at the lottery's peak a few years ago. Camelot is eager to stem the decline.



## her's role st model one girl

AN SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

When is there a girl in the picture? It's a question that has been asked many times in the past. But now, with the rise of the 'her's role' model, it's a question that has become more relevant than ever.

Ms. [Name] said she had been asked to play the role of a girl in a recent film. She said she was not interested in the role because she was not a girl.

She said she was not interested in the role because she was not a girl.

# Strong women get the blame for BBC's Vanity failure

By Carol Midgley, Media Correspondent

AUDIENCES for *Vanity Fair*, the BBC's much-hyped costume drama, fell to six million on Sunday, attracting only one in four viewers.

The £6 million dramatisation of William Makepeace Thackeray's novel won a 25 per cent share of the audience while the *Inspector Wexford* police drama gained a 46 per cent share and just over 10 million viewers, according to early figures.

This was despite large advertisements placed in the press by the BBC, drawing viewers' attention to the drama and to a series of excellent critical reviews.

Last week *Vanity Fair* pulled in 6.8 million, as viewers opted to watch an old repeat of *Tuggart* on ITV. Next week the ratings are likely to drop further as the BBC moves it back half an hour in the schedule to 9.30pm to ensure it does not have to compete with ITV's *Heartbeat*. It will then, however, be head-to-head with *Cold Feet*, the comedy drama starring Helen Baxendale which won a Silver Rose at the Montreux Film Festival.

The performance of *Vanity Fair* has prompted speculation that the BBC may have created a backlash to period dramas by choosing novels with strong female leads.

Andrew Davies, who adapted *Vanity Fair* and *Pride and Prejudice* for the BBC, has admitted he was pressurised by women producers to play up female roles.

He said women viewers wanted to be like the feisty, attractive characters while male viewers "want to go to bed with them".

Suzanne Harrison, who produced *Vanity Fair*, *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* and *Tom Jones* for the BBC, said there had been a deliberate policy towards strong females "to emphasise their roles" and point out the "connection with today's modern women".

David Noakes, professor of English at University College London, who adapted *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* for the BBC said he would be reluctant to do any more. He said there needed to be more accuracy with regard to plot and language. "I'm not sure the BBC any longer knows what it wants," he said.

The BBC yesterday said it was delighted with the ratings and the reviews. "It is a huge critical success and we are thrilled with it," a spokesman said.

"People have a choice. But if six million people are watching this, that is great. Thackeray would be dancing in the streets."

"We are confident the consolidated figures will show nearer eight million. It is a piece of some ambition and we challenge ITV to match it."

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### Police row provokes resignation

A third member of Merseyside Police Authority resigned yesterday over the appointment of Norman Bettison as Chief Constable despite his links to the Hillsborough football disaster.

Steve Foulkes said that the choice of Mr Bettison, who was part of a unit accused of trying to divert blame for the deaths at the 1989 FA Cup semi-final from the South Yorkshire Police on to the Liverpool fans, had caused "outrage and extra grief".

Steve Foulkes said that the choice of Mr Bettison, who was part of a unit accused of trying to divert blame for the deaths at the 1989 FA Cup semi-final from the South Yorkshire Police on to the Liverpool fans, had caused "outrage and extra grief".

More than 40 Egyptian antiquities smuggled into Britain by Jonathan Tokely Parry, a restorer who was jailed for six years in June last year, will be returned to the Egyptian Embassy today.

Yellow Pages is weeding out tradesmen who preface their entries with a string of letters as so they go to the top of the list. Unless they produce headed notepaper to show the letters are part of their trading name, the letters are dropped.

In an interview with Gemma Levine: "Photographic memories" (October 14) it was stated that Lady Falkender "has a brain tumour, is confined to a wheelchair and gets mud-died". We have been asked to make it clear that her operation was for an aneurism, not a brain tumour, and that although she uses a wheelchair she is not confined to it. She is recovering well.

# US bugged me in Bosnia, says General Rose

### UN's British commander tells Michael Evans that the Americans suspected him of being soft on the Serbs

GENERAL Sir Michael Rose, the former United Nations military commander in Bosnia, revealed yesterday that his headquarters in Sarajevo may have been bugged by the Americans because they were convinced he supported the Bosnian Serbs.

Washington, which made no secret of its backing for the Muslims, wanted the UN peacekeeping force to adopt an aggressive approach towards the Serbs, and resented General Rose's attitude. "I wasn't pro-Serb or pro-Muslim, I was supposed to be the mediator, not take sides, but I had to educate the Americans before they understood what the mission in Bosnia was about," he said.

He became convinced that certain officials in the US State Department were deliberately trying to undermine his efforts as the head of the peacekeeping force. General Rose, the former Director Special Forces who commanded the SAS in the Falklands War in 1982, suspected that his office was being bugged when distorted reports began emerging in Wash-

ington about the way he was running the peacekeeping operation in Bosnia. He said false facts about the war in Bosnia were being fed to Congress and he was accused of being anti-Muslim. In an interview with *The Times* to mark the publication yesterday of *Fighting for Peace*, his personal account of his year as commander-in-chief of the UN Protection Force in 1994-95, General Rose said that before the Americans became involved in the peacekeeping effort and sent ground troops, he realised that all his communications were being electronically intercepted.

When he later asked the Americans if they were also bugging his headquarters, "they never denied it". Although he was full of praise for the huge contribution which the Americans eventually played in bringing peace to Bosnia, during the early stages of his time as UN chief in Sarajevo he had a running battle with some of the American officials.

In his first week in Sarajevo in January 1994, he was visited by a "strange shadowy figure straight out of a Graham Greene novel" called Fred Cuny, an ex-US Marine Corps officer who was running a water project in Sarajevo for the International Rescue Committee.

"We assumed he was working for the CIA," General Rose said. At the meeting, the American was highly critical of the UN and demanded "tough military action against the Bosnian Serbs". General Rose said: "Even though I explained to him that we were about to launch a new strategy based on a tougher military approach to peacekeeping, he didn't believe me."

He said he would do everything he could to undermine me, unless I could demonstrate my resolve by action on the ground. At which point I threw him out."

On another occasion, he was visited by General John Galvin, former Supreme Allied Commander Europe who had been appointed by President Clinton to advise on a new structure for the Bosnian Army.

General Rose said: "We were escorted by a woman from the US Embassy who, in my view, was the most hostile American I met during all my time in Bosnia." As they flew

by helicopter towards Tuzla in the north, she pointed at all the destroyed villages high in the Zvijezda mountains and "exclaimed excitedly" to General Galvin: "Look at what the criminal Serbs have done."

In fact, General Rose said, they were Bosnian Croat villages ethnically cleansed by the Muslim forces. Later when they visited Mostar in the south where the Croats had virtually destroyed the Muslim sector in the eastern part of the town, the US official "planted her hands on her ample hips" and cried: "Well, at least this was done by the criminal Serbs." General



General Rose says eavesdropping led to emergence in Washington of distorted reports about his operation

### Russian grave may hold our soldiers

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE EDITOR

THE Ministry of Defence is investigating reports of a mass First World War grave in northern Russia that could contain the remains of dozens of British soldiers.

The grave has been discovered in a field near Kandalaksha, south of the Russian submarine base at Murmansk. A Ministry of Defence official said: "We don't know for sure at this stage whether the grave has British remains in it but we are investigating."

The Ministry is examining 80-year-old records to establish whether any servicemen were killed in that area. Discussions are also being held with the Russian authorities.

It is believed that the remains could be casualties from the British contingent of the international intervention force sent to Murmansk and Archangel in 1918 in a covert attempt to overturn the Russian revolution. The force, drawn largely from Britain, the United States, France and Japan, fought alongside the White Russians, but was defeated by the Red Army.

A spokeswoman said that the number of soldiers buried there was thought to be in "the tens rather than hundreds". If it is established that the remains are British, the Army Casualty Cell will begin trying to identify the dead soldiers, and then contact surviving relatives.

al Rose said the woman burst into tears when it was pointed out that the Croats had been to blame. "The fact was not lost on Galvin," he said. General Rose who retired from the Army as Adjutant-General in 1996, said the lessons learned during the mission in Bosnia had led the way towards a more mature and realistic attitude towards peacekeeping. As for those who led the warring factions in Bosnia, he said: "I had utter contempt for them all."

□ *Fighting for Peace* (Harvill Press, £18)



Rose in Sarajevo: "I wasn't pro-Serb or pro-Muslim"

## Extraditing Pinochet will 'damage good relations with Chile'

### Law lords are being urged not to interfere with country's balance of political stability, reports Joanna Bale

BRITAIN should not damage its good diplomatic relations with Chile by agreeing to extradite General Augusto Pinochet to Spain on allegations of kidnap, torture and murder, five Law Lords were told yesterday.

It should also refuse to interfere with the delicate balance of Chile's political stability by passing judgment on the way it had achieved democratic rule, it was argued. Clare Montgomery, QC counsel for General Pinochet, told an appeal in the House of Lords that they should uphold a High Court ruling that the former dictator enjoys sovereign immunity from

prosecution because he was head of state when the allegations against him were said to have occurred. The Crown Prosecution Service, on behalf of Spain, has argued that the General should be extradited for his "crimes against humanity". Ms Montgomery told the hearing that since 1990, when the former dictator stepped down as President during the country's return to democratic rule, he had enjoyed good relations with Britain which had included four visits to

London, including one as a guest of a government agency, the Royal Ordnance. On each of these visits the Government afforded him treatment consistent with his status as a former head of state or as a member of a diplomatic mission. This implied endorsement of his behaviour. Ms Montgomery argued that bringing criminal proceedings against the General in Britain for matters that occurred in Chile conflicted with individual state law "normally to allow countries to or-

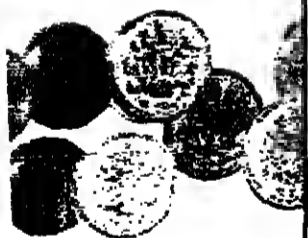
ganise their own internal affairs in a way that could secure peaceful rule". She drew comparisons with the political situation in South Africa, where the Truth and Reconciliation Commission had been established to try to balance the need for justice with the need for reconciliation. It was argued that it would upset the delicate internal balance in South Africa if F.W. de Klerk, the former President, were to be arrested in Britain for extradition to a third country in connection with al-

leged crimes committed during the apartheid era. On stepping down as Chilean President in 1990, General Pinochet became a senator for life and appeared to have been given immunity to prosecution within Chile. His right-wing supporters say that his immunity was an important factor in bringing about the peaceful restoration of democracy after his military regime. Ms Montgomery told the Law Lords that, in any case, judicial authorities in Chile were examining

allegations of crimes during General Pinochet's 1973-1990 rule. There were 11 proceedings relating to him in the Chilean courts. "It will be for the court there to decide whether he is to be accorded immunity under the basis of being senator for life," she argued. The Conservative leader, William Hague, raised similar points to Ms Montgomery over political stability after a meeting with a delegation of four Chilean MPs yesterday. Mr Hague, although emphasising that he was not condoning

human rights abuses, said: "Chile has made a peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy... This transition should be supported, not undermined." This argument drew a derisory reaction yesterday from Juan Pablo Letelier, son of Orlando Letelier, a former Chilean defence minister who was assassinated in a car bomb attack in Washington after criticising General Pinochet's regime. Señor Letelier junior said that there was "no arrangement, no agreement, no settlement" in Chile based on General Pinochet enjoying impunity. The hearing continues today.

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# 'Gay mafia' is pure political fantasy

**Peter Riddell unpicks conspiracy theories in an analysis of power groups within the Blair Cabinet**

THE paranoid have always detected conspiracies among the rich and the powerful. One fringe American presidential candidate claimed that the Queen and MI6 were at the centre of a conspiracy involving the Kremlin (in pre-Gorbachev days), the Israeli intelligence service Mossad and the big Wall Street banks.

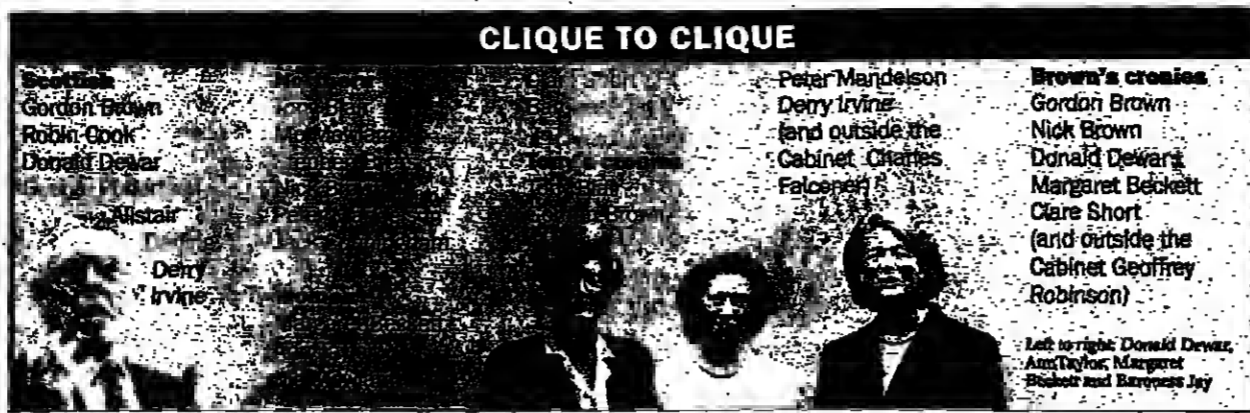
By contrast, alleged conspiracies here look rather tame. The Sun's front-page question yesterday, "Are we being run by a gay mafia?", was not only grotesquely offensive but it is also ludicrous in its own terms.

The idea that the homosexual members of the Cabinet act

together in secret to advance their interests is nonsense — just as it would be to suggest that the Cabinet's half-dozen divorcees have a common bond to weaken the family.

Relations between Peter Mandelson and Nick Brown have been distinctly unfriendly since the bitter Labour leadership contest of summer 1994. Neither has been heard to say anything kind about the other. In many ways, the current hunt for Cabinet gays is reminiscent of the anti-Semitic murmuring about ministers of Jewish attraction in the Thatcher Cabinet of the mid-1980s.

But conspiracy theorists have plenty of other material



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to go on now — a Scottish mafia, another from the North East, or among women Cabinet members. Regional lists obviously mean ministers know each other better, but that does not necessarily mean they like each other.

No one would describe Gordon Brown as part of a mafia with Robin Cook, nor do the six-strong northern contingent work together, except to defend their constituency interests.

There is no great feminist mafia either. The five women Cabinet members are not close to each other. The only two "mafias" that really matter in the present Cabinet are those around Tony Blair and Gordon Brown: people with whom they are in close touch rather than just meeting formally.

Mr Blair frequently talks to Mandelson (though seldom both together); as well as to Derry Irvine, who still at times treats him as a promising pupil barrister, and, outside the Cabinet, to Charlie Falconer, another old friend from the Bar.

They are part of a group

that includes close Downing Street staff such as Jonathan Powell and Alistair Campbell.

The Gordon Brown "mafia" includes Nick Brown, Donald Dewar (now somewhat detached), Margaret Beckett and Clare Short, as well as, outside the Cabinet, Geoffrey Robinson and several other junior ministers.

As significant as these are Ed Balls and Charlie Whelan on his personal staff.

Alleged mafias are not new. A century ago, Lord Salisbury's Government was so full of members of the Cecil family, including his nephew and successor Arthur Balfour, that his opponents coined the phrase, the Hotel Cecil and "Bob's your uncle".

In the 1980s, Baroness Thatcher talked of "one of us", but, apart from a few stalwarts such as the late Nicholas Ridley, many allies fell out

with her at some stage. Indeed, the Thatcherites always saw the Blue Chip dining club as a conspiracy, centred on Tristan Garel-Jones, to assist the promotion of each other. But in the leadership election of November 1990, the allegiances of the Blue Chips were split between John Major and Douglas Hurd.

There was much talk a decade ago about the power of the Cambridge "mafia", a group of Tory undergraduates of the late 1950s and early 1960s, five of whom served together in the Cabinet. But, while still friends, they were fierce rivals and sharply divided over Europe.

In reality, most alleged "mafias" or conspiracies dissolve on closer inspection.

Politics is usually both more individual and more accidental than the paranoid fantasists suppose.

## Goodlad is tipped for Brussels

By Philip Webster  
Political Editor

SIR ALASTAIR GOODLAD, the former Tory Chief Whip, emerged yesterday as the front-runner to become the next British commissioner in Brussels.

Downing Street firmly denied weekend reports that Tony Blair had sounded out Chris Patten, the former Hong Kong Governor, about the job.

It was confirmed by Conservative sources that William Hague, the Tory leader, had formally nominated Sir Alastair for the post which will become vacant when Sir Leon Brittan, the former Home Secretary, stands down. The unwritten understanding is that the job will go to a Conservative. Neil Kinnock, the former Labour leader, is the other British commissioner.

Downing Street said yesterday that the Conservatives had made their nomination and the Prime Minister took that seriously. Weekend reports suggested that he would appoint Mr Patten to undermine Mr Hague's stance on the single currency. Some ministers believe that Mr Patten, a more senior figure, should be appointed in any case.



Lord Irvine of Lairg wearing his full ceremonial dress

## Once more into the breeches for Irvine as peers stop dress change

THE Lord Chancellor's attempt to discard his ceremonial finery of breeches, tights and buckled shoes could be blocked for good next week after fierce Tory opposition.

Such is the level of disapproval in the Lords that peers' leaders have been forced to take the rare step of putting the matter to a vote on the floor of the House on Monday. Tories are confident of victory.

Heated debate has already taken place in private committee sessions where such matters are normally resolved. But the issue has become so sensitive that the Lords' Procedure Committee has concluded that it can only be decided by a formal vote of all peers.

Almost from the day he took office last year, Lord Irvine of Lairg has complained bitterly about having to wear a full-bottomed wig, gown, breeches, tights and buckled shoes while sitting in Parliament.

However, his demands have angered traditionalist peers who believe the move is the latest attempt by the Government to remove Parliament's ancient ceremonies by stealth. They also believe it would diminish the standing of the office of Lord Chancellor.

Lord Irvine is expected to face questions about his dress today when he appears before the Commons Home Affairs Committee to talk about the work of his department. The Lord Chancellor

### James Landale on Lord Chancellor's attempt to discard his 'ludicrous' attire

first asked the Procedure Committee last June for permission to modify what he called his "ludicrous" 17th-century uniform.

He demanded that he should be able to wear more comfortable and practical attire of black trousers and black shoes. He also asked that he could spend more time behind the dispatch box — when he can take off his wig and gown — while leading debate on government Bills. At present, he can do this only during the committee stage of a Bill. Most of the time he sits and speaks from the Wool-sack where he presides as *ex-officio* Speaker of the House of Lords.

Lord Irvine has even dragged Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, into the debate by pointing out that she did not wear a wig when she took up her position in 1992.

Although Lord Irvine made clear he was prepared to wear his full ceremonial dress in formal parliamentary occasions such as the State Opening of Parliament, Tory and Liberal Democrat peers

on the Procedure Committee fiercely opposed any changes. But instead of rejecting the move outright, they decided to leave the final decision up to a formal vote on the floor of the House.

Earl Ferrers, the former Tory minister, has tabled two amendments to the committee's report. He wants peers to stop any changes and to insist that the Lord Chancellor continues to speak most of the time from beside the Wool-sack. While most peers are relatively relaxed about Lord Irvine spending more time behind the dispatch box without his wig, they are more concerned about the dress changes.

"The position of Lord Chancellor is one of the highest in the land," Lord Ferrers said. "It commands great dignity and the panoply and the ceremonial of the Lord Chancellor should not be diminished."

"It would be a pity if one member who had the privilege of holding the position at a particular time decided to dress down for personal convenience, which would then be likely to be continued by future Chancellors."

He added: "One might as well suggest that the soldiers taking part in the Trooping of the Colour should do away with their bearskins because they are not currently fashionable. This is another example of the present Government chipping away at traditions and standards which are the envy of other countries."

## £20m limit in place by election

By Mark Ingfield  
Political Reporter

A PROPOSAL to limit to £20 million the amount that political parties can spend on general election campaigns could be in place when the nation next goes to the polls.

Jack Straw told the Commons yesterday that the cap recommended by the Neill Committee on Standards in Public Life was in the "right bracket". The Home Secretary added that it would not be possible to introduce a draft Bill until next summer.

Mr Straw also accepted that there was wide acceptance of a limit of £1.5 million for next year's Scottish parliament elections and £600,000 for the Welsh assembly elections. But he voiced reservations about the call for the Government of the day to remain neutral in referendum campaigns.

Mr Straw was opening a debate on the Neill report, which recommended an end to foreign donations. Sir Norman Fowler, the Shadow Home Secretary, said that the Tories' major donors would be listed in its annual accounts, to be published in the "next few weeks".

## Adams denies disarmament move

By Martin Fletcher, Chief Ireland Correspondent

GERRY ADAMS yesterday dismissed as nonsense claims that the IRA was planning a pre-Christmas army convention to discuss disarmament. The Sinn Féin president said whoever inspired the reports on Sunday had done so to "confuse and make our task rather more difficult".

Mr Adams was speaking before a Downing Street meeting at which he sought Tony Blair's personal intervention to break the deadlock over decommissioning. David Trimble, Northern Ireland's First Minister, will not admit Sinn Féin to government until IRA disarmament begins, but Sinn Féin insists the Good Friday accord sets no such pre-conditions. The 200th terrorist prisoner will be released from the Maze this morning, but Mr Adams complained that neither a power-sharing executive nor the proposed new cross-border ministerial council had been set up. The peace process was being "bogged down quite deliberately" by Unionists, he said.

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# Injustice

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# Injustice that hinders healing of Ulster pain

## Martin Fletcher on how Northern Ireland's criminal compensation scheme is failing the bereaved

MICHELLE FENTON was 35 with four young children when the IRA abducted and killed her husband, Joe, in February 1989. He ran an estate agency and the family lived comfortably. They had just bought a new home in West Belfast which they had stripped to the brick for refurbishing.

Northern Ireland's Criminal Injuries Compensation scheme was set up to help people like Mrs Fenton. She applied for compensation but was given "nothing, not a half-penny, not a farthing" because the scheme excludes anyone who had ever belonged to an "unlawful association".

Twelve years earlier, Mr Fenton had received a two-year suspended sentence for IRA membership. He had joined under peer pressure, since he had been killed by the organisation because it alleged that he was informing. But the rules were rigid.

Mrs Fenton had to work, first as a school meal server and later as an auxiliary nurse. "The kids not only lost a father but never saw their mother either," she said.

Her own mother had to sell her house to help. "Me and my children were innocent. They didn't deserve losing their father. They didn't deserve having to struggle for everything they wanted."

Thousands have been bereaved or maimed during 30 years of conflict. Mrs Fenton was one of several *The Times* interviewed at the Wave victims' support centre in North Belfast. All told harrowing stories of how the compensation scheme had failed them.

Compounding their suffering was the perception that public funds were being lavished on the terrorist prisoners that caused their pain. "It's like a sore," said Sandra Peake, Wave's co-ordinator. "The way compensation has been given keeps the wounds open."

Sir Kenneth Bloomfield, the

### 'My children didn't deserve having to struggle'

former head of Northern Ireland's Civil Service, is belatedly now examining the compensation scheme for the Government, but cannot re-open individual cases. In a general report on the victims last March, he said that he had "encouraged grief and suffering on an enormous scale" and a "corroding sense of grievance".

The scheme has paid out about £186 million to victims of terrorist violence since 1968, but causes deep bitterness because it compensates for "pecuniary loss". A chief executive's widow might thus have received a six-figure sum — Ingeborg Niedermayer, whose German industrialist husband vanished from his Belfast home in 1979, was awarded £100,000.

The widow of an unemployed man may have got little more than funeral expenses.

"Apart from it being wrong, it hurts," said Betty Devlin, a widow who received nothing after her son, Sean, 31, was killed by the IRA in Belfast's inappropriately named Friendly Street in 1996. He was unemployed.

The scheme also compensates for serious psychological injury, but only if the bereaved witnessed the killing. Michelle Williamson, 30, a civil servant, lost both parents in the 1993 Shankill Road fish shop bomb, and was so traumatised she never worked again. She got nothing because she did not see her parents die.

Christine McKay did witness two gunmen killing her husband Noel, a BT engineer, in their South Belfast driveway when she was heavily pregnant in 1978. She received compensation but was never told she could claim for mental trauma. She began drinking, lost her secretarial job, sold her home and sought ob-

scurey in Armagh for the next nine years. "There are many people like me who didn't receive compensation because they didn't know," she said.

Each settlement is individually negotiated. That can require highly intrusive questioning at times of intense grief. The disfigured have had to display their wounds in court. The scheme favours those educated enough to understand the procedures and who can afford good solicitors. Sir Kenneth's first report said victims found the procedures "complex, baffling, frustrating and on occasion humiliating".

Margaret McKinney's son Brian, 22, was one of the so-called "disappeared", spirited away by the IRA in 1978. The trauma destroyed her health and that of her husband. Both had to give up work. Mrs McKinney, from West Belfast, never applied for compensa-



Maria McShane lost an eye in a 1976 bombing. In 1994 her son was shot dead

## Family's torment can never be erased

EVEN some who did receive money from Northern Ireland's Criminal Injuries Compensation scheme say that it was hopelessly inadequate.

In 1976, Maria McShane, of Keady, Co Armagh, was aged 18 and preparing to get married when she was caught in a loyalist pub bomb. She lost an eye, had shrapnel removed from her brain, and was seriously disfigured. In 1994, loyalist gunmen killed her 17-year-old son Gavin as he played a video game in a taxi office. She received £40,000 for her injuries and £15,000 for her son's death. That did not begin to compensate for what the family endured, she said.

Mrs McShane has never worked since, and still suffers from depression and acute headaches. Her husband had to retire at 40 after suffering heart attacks. The education of their other two children suffered badly. The family struggles to make ends meet.

"There were a lot of times over the years I considered suicide," Mrs McShane said. "Nobody knows what you've gone through."

## fantasy

with her at some stage. Indeed, the Thatcherites always saw the Blue Chip dining club as a conspiracy, centred on Tristan Garel-Jones, to assist the promotion of each other. But in the leadership election of November 1990, the allegiances of the Blue Chips were split between John Major and Douglas Hurd.

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## £20m limit in place by election

BY MARK INGLEFIELD POLITICAL REPORTER

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Mr Straw also accepted that there was wide acceptance of a limit of £1.5 million for the next year's Scottish and Welsh elections. He would be making a call for the Government to introduce a referendum campaign.

Mr Straw was also expected to announce that the Neill committee had recommended a limit of £500,000 for the next year's Welsh and Northern Irish elections.

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## gent move

Mr. Adams...

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# Pressure for airstrikes on Iraq mounts

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein of Iraq was given a warning yesterday that unless he begins co-operating with United Nations weapons inspectors in a matter of weeks, his military infrastructure would suffer "immense damage" from airstrikes.

The message came from George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, after he arrived in Kuwait as part of a joint American/British campaign to gather support for military action among Iraq's neighbours.

Mr Robertson, who visited the Ali al-Salem airbase where the RAF has 12 Tornado GR1 bombers and 400 personnel ready for a renewed bombing campaign, said a coalition of countries across Europe and the Commonwealth was now lining up against Iraq.

After talks with the Kuwaiti

**British defence chief threatens to attack in weeks, writes Michael Evans**

Government, Mr Robertson said: "If Saddam thinks he can drag this out he makes a serious miscalculation. Patience is draining away and the option of force is still there."

He condemned Saddam's decision a week ago to stop co-operating with UN inspectors who are hunting for hidden chemical and biological weapons. "He has engineered the most serious confrontation with the international community since the end of the Gulf

War," he said. Mr Robertson added that although a diplomatic solution was preferred, the RAF Tornados were "concrete proof that force was a real option". The 12 Tornados form part of a 180-strong joint British/American strike force in the area.

Mr Robertson said that if Saddam refused to dismantle his chemical weapons plants, the bombers would be sent into action. "Either he destroys that capability or it may be that people will have to do that for him," he said.

In Washington, it appeared that a new strategy for dealing with Saddam was beginning to emerge. According to *The New York Times*, President Clinton was considering abandoning the UN arms inspections in favour of containment, including sanctions and the use of force. Officials said the

President was studying two options: a quick strike with US forces already in the Gulf or a sustained air campaign that would require a longer build-up of American forces.



George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, with a RAF Tornado detachment at Ali al-Salem airbase in Kuwait

A short-notice strike would involve launching Tomahawk cruise missiles and combat aircraft from the aircraft carrier

in the region, *USS Dwight D Eisenhower*. Currently there are 13 US warships in the Gulf — seven capable of launching cruise missiles — and 174 combat aircraft.

Pentagon officials said America's Gulf forces could be built up in days to the levels of last year, when more than 400 aircraft and two air-

craft carrier battle groups were stationed there during a similar confrontation.

US officials believe that by deciding to halt the inspections, Iraq has isolated itself internationally, alienating even countries such as France and Russia which have opposed military action in the past.

□ Baghdad: Iraq gave a warning yesterday that it could halt its postwar disarmament. The ruling Baath Party's newspaper said that "by denying Iraq the right to secure a lifting of the embargo," the Security Council could drive it "to review all the resolutions which it accepted in the past." (AFP)

## Cypriot chippy flushes out 'Mossad spies'

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

A FARICAL element surrounding the arrest of two Israelis on suspicion of spying at a military base in Cyprus has prompted speculation that the incident may be the latest blunder by Mossad, Israel's intelligence agency.

The Israeli press seized on comments by a restaurateur in the fishing village of Zygi who suspected the men were spies because they had hidden away and did not visit his establishment, renowned for its fresh fish. But the case is being viewed seriously by both Governments, which were struggling yesterday to prevent it developing into a full-blown diplomatic row.

Cyprus said that there was no evidence, so far, that the men — Udi Hargov, 37, and Igal Danary, 49 — were working for Israel, but it did voice suspicions that they were freelancing for Turkey.

## Hardliner urges settlers to seize West Bank land

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

A PROMINENT Israeli politician yesterday called on Jewish settlers to "grab" more land as military officials revealed that at least five new hilltop outposts have been built in the occupied West Bank since the Wye peace deal was signed in the United States two weeks ago.

With implementation of the accord frozen as a result of Israeli demands that the Palestinians do more to combat Islamic militants, the call for illegal settlement expansion is in defiance of a request from the US State Department for all such activity to be halted.

Benny Elon, a Knesset deputy for the hawkish Molodet Party, called on "all Jewish settlements" to "tear down the fences around them and put up mobile homes in order to establish as many facts on the ground as possible and confound this confused Government."

Mr Elon added: "What will not be ours, will be theirs. It is simple, we have to grab the land. The most important areas are the mountainous Samarian region, south of Hebron, and the areas near Efrat (all in the West Bank)."

Amos Harel, military corre-



Netanyahu: challenged by hawks in Knesset

spondent of the Tel Aviv daily *Haaretz*, claimed that "political pressure at Cabinet level" had so far prevented the army taking action against the new outposts, all erected since Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, signed the deal to transfer 13 per cent more of the West Bank to the Palestinians in exchange for new security guarantees.

Although the last two years have seen several of the 144 settlements expand to neighbouring hilltops, the two weeks since the White House signing ceremony have brought a surge in activity aimed at establishing new "facts on the ground" before negotiations on the final status begin.

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FROM MICHAEL  
THEODORE  
IN NICOSIA

A FARCICAL element surrounding the arrest of Israelis on suspicion of being at a military base in Cyprus has prompted speculation that the incident was the latest blunder by the Israeli intelligence service. The Israeli press commented by a restaurant in the fishing village of who suspected the Mossad spies because they had been away and did not bring their fresh fish. But the being viewed seriously by both governments, were struggling to prevent it developing into a full-blown diplomatic crisis. Cyprus said that there was no evidence so far of men - Udi Harpor, Isal Daman, 49 - working for Israel but voice suspicions that were free-lancing for the

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# Hurricane-hit banana firm sacks workers

FROM DAVID ADAMS  
IN LA CEIBA  
NORTH HONDURAS

AS A huge Western relief operation began to airlift desperately needed aid to Central America, the devastated economies of the region have suffered a new blow, with thousands of banana workers facing the sack.

While George Bush, the former American President, arrived in Honduras with the first of thousands of tons of American assistance, multinational fruit companies, which have exploited the fertile valleys of northern Honduras for almost a century, announced that they are firing their entire workforce, numbering 16,000.

Employees of one of the companies, Standard Fruit, a subsidiary of the California-based Dole group, yesterday began



talks here with the banana unions to negotiate the terms of a temporary severance package as a result of the destruction of the crop by Hurricane Mitch.

The company says almost 80 per cent of its plantations - about 13,000 acres - were ruined by flooding that has halted its exports. Damage is so severe that company officials say many farms will have to be replanted, and new crops may

not be ready until the end of next year.

"There's absolutely nothing left. It's like *Gone With The Wind*," said Dr Francisco Romero-Baca, Standard's spokesman, describing one of the worst-affected plantations. "We have no answer yet for how much we will be able to export in 1999."

The company said it was seeking "temporary suspension" of all its employees for 12 months, but would be offering a hurricane bonus to its workers, as well as interest-free loans and a programme of food aid and medical attention. Under Honduran labour law, any deal arranged with the unions must be approved by the Honduran Government. The company said it is also considering setting up a refugee camp for workers who lost their homes, and will be



George Bush, escorted by the wife of the Honduran President, heads for a meeting at the presidential palace

asking the United Nations to manage it.

But the unions say the deal is unacceptable, and accuse the company of seeking to turn the hurricane to its advantage,

at the cost of poorly paid workers who earn a basic salary of about \$120 (£71) a month.

While recognising the financial loss from crop damage, environmental experts also say

the banana companies may not have come off as badly as they suggest. "The floods are good for business. They bring hidden benefits," said Manuel Torres, a Honduran political

and economic analyst. He said studies show that the sediment washed down the mountainsides into the valley by the flooding carries valuable organic nutrients.

## Paradise island protests at DNA testing

FROM BEN MACINTYRE  
IN PARIS

PEOPLE of Mustique, the Caribbean paradise island frequented by millionaires, supermodels, rock stars and royalty, are being fingerprinted in an effort to solve a murder mystery that has tainted the image of one of the world's most glamorous holiday spots.

The body of Suzy Mostberger, a wealthy French socialite, aged 56, was found in her holiday home on the island last February. After nine months of investigations French police have finally established not only the suspect's fingerprints but also the DNA "prints" of two people, a man and a woman, they believe were involved in the murder.

About 180 fingerprint tests have been carried out on the island without finding a match, and Dominique Bohnert, the investigating magistrate, is believed to be considering the DNA testing of every person who was on the island on the night of the murder.

The fingerprinting has caused annoyance among the wealthy residents of the island. Sir James Mitchell, the Prime Minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines, has said he will oppose generalised DNA testing, according to French news reports.

Mostberger was stabbed to death with a kitchen knife, and struggled violently with her murderer or murderers before her throat was cut, investigators believe. The murdered woman's relatives have accused the authorities of dragging their feet to protect the image of the island as a haven of tranquillity.

Among the island's regular visitors are pop stars Mick Jagger and David Bowie, while Princess Margaret left her holiday home on Mustique, after suffering a stroke, just a few days before the murder earlier this year.

*Le Figaro* reported yesterday that the French police are particularly keen to get the guest list for a birthday party held for Tatiana Copland, a wealthy American neighbour of Madame Mostberger, on the evening before the murder. The French investigators have pointed out that a photo of the suspected killer has still not been made public, and they have accused the local authorities of slowing down the murder hunt.



Bin Laden: still viewed as a threat by America

## US siege mentality sets in

Los Angeles: The spectre of a new wave of Arab terrorist attacks haunted America at the weekend, both in its multiplexes and in an all-too-real warning from the CIA (Giles Whittell writes).

Opening on more than 2,000 screens across the country, a new film, *The Siege*, starring Denzel Washington and Bruce Willis, depicts a New York paralysed by a string of bombings and by martial law.

Even as Arab Americans condemned the film's portrayal of Islam, Wall Street was digesting a CIA warning that Osama bin Laden, the suspected mastermind of the recent US Embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania, "will strike again".



## "Constantly dealing with mutilated bodies in N. Ireland is enough to give anybody nightmares and depression"

As a war correspondent I've seen, first hand, the most appalling injuries and mental pressures our Armed Forces endure, leaving thousands of them crippled for life both physically and mentally.

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THE TIMES TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10 1998

# Wild man of Louisiana set to be Speaker

### Gingrich protégé to step into his shoes, writes Damian Whitworth

BOB LIVINGSTON, an accomplished but hot-tempered political manager, looked certain to succeed Newt Gingrich as Speaker of the House after his chief challenger dropped out of the race yesterday.

Once described by his mother as "a lunatic" after she had seen him railing passionately on television, Mr Livingston will seek to reunite the Republican Party after the bloodletting that followed its dismal showing in last week's elections which led to Mr Gingrich's resignation.

Christopher Cox, the Californian representative who had made a bid for the job, pulled out after a weekend of telephone calls to colleagues revealed that he would not secure the backing of a majority.

"The truth is that the vote is in and Bob Livingston is going to be our next Speaker and I am withdrawing for that reason," he said. "We got to the point where we were having to start fighting for commitments. It's very, very important for us not to push an election for Speaker to the bitter end when we have a six-vote majority in the House of Representatives."

Mr Livingston, a Louisiana representative for 21 years, built his political power base as chairman of the Appropriations Committee which approves all public spending. He owed his position to Mr Gingrich who plucked him from relative obscurity four years ago to give him the chairmanship.

But he was not afraid to move swiftly last week to chal-

lenge the Speaker for his job after the Republicans lost five seats in the House. Mr Gingrich resigned shortly afterwards.

Clips of him gesticulating wildly on the House floor during the 1995 budget battle, shouting "we will stay here until Doomsday", have been aired endlessly on television. He attempted to allay suspicions that he lacks the temperament for the job by making light of the incident, saying that even his mother rang him to say, "Hey, you looked like a lunatic. Don't do that again."

He said: "And I didn't do that again. When I am Speaker I will never do that again." Time magazine also reported that before he challenged Mr Gingrich publicly last week he had sent him a 10-point list of demands that would have effectively stripped the Speaker of his powers. A few hours later he called back to tell Mr Gingrich to ignore it.

Mr Livingston is a navy veteran with a black belt in taekwondo. His supporters say he is a pragmatist who proved himself adept at cutting deals on spending, and they insist he will be able to keep the party's far Right happy.

"He's going to be like Reagan was," said Peter King, a New York representative. "Reagan agreed with social conservatives on their issues, but he knew it was when and how you push them."

Leading article, page 19



Livingston: renowned for uncontrolled passion



Steven Hoeftlin, the original "Doc Hollywood", who is facing accusations of improper conduct with his patients, in Los Angeles with his wife, Pamela

# Face-lift expert in battle to save his skin

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

THE plastic surgeon famous for transforming Michael Jackson and Ivana Trump almost beyond recognition is locked in a \$46 million (£28.7 million) legal battle to save his own professional skin.

Dr Steven Hoeftlin, Tinseltown's undisputed face-lift pharaoh, is being sued for millions by four former employees who two years ago accused him of fondling celebrities' genitals as they lay anaesthetised on his operating table.

This list of charges against the original "Doc Hollywood" has now lengthened. It includes allegations that he tipped off tabloid reporters when his star patients were due to go under the knife, left surgical work to underlings while he went out to lunch, and parked recovering patients - including some whose eyelids had been sewn shut for facial work - in a hospital corridor instead of in \$450-a-night rooms for which they had paid.

Dr Hoeftlin has been a magnet for scandal ever since the same four female employees accused him of sexual harassment in 1995. He settled that suit out of court with five-figure sums for each woman "to avoid any embarrassment" to his clients, his lawyer claimed.

The accusation that he groped his anaesthetised patients has proved harder to shake. An steely-eyed icon to California's nip 'n tuck devotees, he has denied all charges against him as part of an "outrageous" smear campaign, but has failed to carry out a threat to sue *The Washington Post* over an article entitled

"Face Off" in which they first appeared. Instead, Dr Hoeftlin has resorted to a media counter-offensive helped by celebrity friends and clients like Phyllis Diller, the comedienne.

"His work is wonderful," she told *People* magazine - and she should know. Over the years he has performed a breast reduction, a tummy tuck, two rhinoplasties, two cheek implants, an eye-browlift, an eyelift, two face-lifts and a chemical peel for her.

The tactic of speaking out has now backfired. The latest

"The accusation that he groped his anaesthetised patients is harder to shake"

complaint by his former employees, filed last week in Los Angeles Superior Court, accuses him of defaming them in a more recent magazine article in which he called them "sick individuals bent on destroying me".

In the same article his media strategist, Steve Jaffe, called the four "a bunch of losers" who had managed to manipulate *The Washington Post*. Mr Jaffe should not count on a cordial relationship with Dr Hoeftlin, who sued his last media consultant for overcharging him.

# Setback for Clinton as adviser is told he may face grand jury

FROM DAMIAN WHITWORTH IN WASHINGTON

THE Supreme Court yesterday dealt a fresh blow to President Clinton by ruling that Bruce Lindsey, his close confidant, cannot claim attorney-client privilege to avoid testifying before a grand jury.

In a victory for Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor, Mr Lindsey may now be hauled back to give evidence about matters relating to the investigation into the President's affair with Monica Lewinsky. Mr Lindsey has been before the grand jury before but he refused to answer a number of questions.

Although Mr Starr has written his report on the affair

with Ms Lewinsky, it is believed that he might press Mr Lindsey further on what he knows of the President's meetings with Kathleen Willey, who has accused him of groping her in the Oval Office.

In a separate ruling, the Supreme Court denied an appeal by the Clinton Administration against a decision to allow Mr Starr to question Secret Service officers about Mr Clinton's relationship with Ms Lewinsky. Although testimony by six officers was included in Mr Starr's report, the Administration refused to drop its appeal, saying the consequences were dire for the future.

Seth Waxman, the Solicitor-General, had argued that confidentiality was essential to

prevent possible presidential assassinations.

The decisions came as a subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee began hearing from constitutional experts on interpretations of grounds for impeachment.

There is a growing feeling on both sides of the political divide that it might be possible now to deliver a lesser punishment, such as a censure, to Mr Clinton.

But with the full hearings on impeachment starting next week, there is uncertainty about how this might be achieved.

It emerged yesterday that tapes of Ms Lewinsky's conversations with Linda Tripp are to be released.

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## Paradise island protests at DNA testing

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

PEOPLE of Montserrat, the Caribbean island, are protesting against a DNA test to identify the remains of a man who was killed in a plane crash in 1981. The test is being carried out by the British government as part of an effort to identify the remains of a man who was killed in a plane crash in 1981. The test is being carried out by the British government as part of an effort to identify the remains of a man who was killed in a plane crash in 1981.

mentally dealing with a mutilated in N. Ireland tough to give nightmares depression.

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# Kosovo rebels deal blow to peace hopes

THE Kosovo Liberation Army killed two Serb hostages in the early hours of yesterday morning after an American initiative to forge a ceasefire around the guerrillas' former headquarters of Malisevo had been blown apart in a KLA rocket and grenade assault on the town's police station.

The hostages, both police reservists, were apparently forced to kneel at the side of the road two hundred yards from their besieged colleagues in the station, before being raked with at least 24 bullets fired from a machine pistol.

Their deaths represented a crushing reversal for the Americans' go-it-alone policy in Kosovo; only last Friday, Christopher Hill, Washington's negotiator in the peace process, had visited the villages around Malisevo and pleaded with the guerrillas to stop their often unprovoked attacks on Serb security units in the area.

But the hostages, who were attempting to deliver food to the police station, were captured just hours after he had left, and the KLA has subsequently shown that it is determined to push the Serbs out of Malisevo altogether.

The station was last occupied by the Serbs over a decade ago, but under the recent

## Killing of Serb policemen puts fragile truce in jeopardy, writes Tom Walker

secretive agreement between NATO Supreme Commander Wesley Clark and President Milosevic, it was decided that Belgrade should be allowed to keep its units in the town as a means of countering the KLA's stranglehold over much of the surrounding territory.

The incident provided the Serbs with a graphic opportunity to reveal the brutality of the KLA's methods, and the media centre in Pristina took a convoy of journalists to Malisevo to survey the grisly scene.

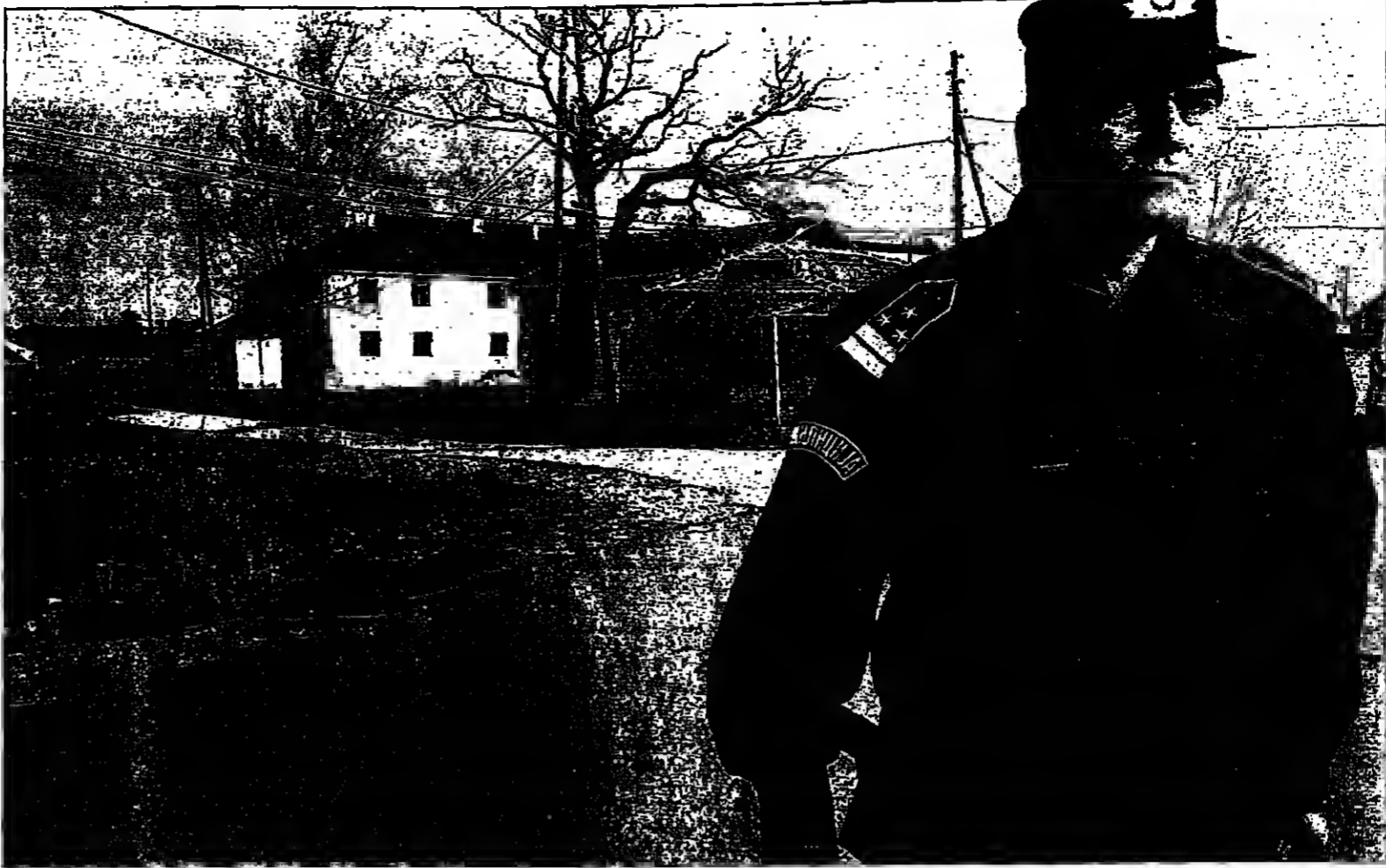
Beneath a heavy winter sky and denuded trees thick with snow, the two policemen, Ilije Vujosevic, 48, and Dejan Djatlov, 23, lay face-down just east of the town's main crossroads.

An investigating judge accompanied a rubber-gloved police pathologist, who rolled the bodies over, revealing the full extent of their injuries to the assembled cameras. The pathologist, in a green camouflage body suit, fished out the dead men's identity cards for the benefit of state television. "You can see they were tortured before being killed," commented a shaken Colonel Bonidar Filip, police spokesman for Kosovo.

A bizarre sideshow then developed, in which a Day-Glo orange American humvee pulled up from the opposite direction, only for its driver, a Contact Group observer, to be harangued by police officials who accused him of removing a key witness from the scene. "He won't come back now whatever I tell him to do," protested the American. "We were doing all we could."

Realising that he was within earshot of journalists, he changed tack and insisted he was in Malisevo because of engine problems with his vehicle, and then beat a hasty retreat to the accompaniment of much police cursing. There are already ominous signs that the relationship between international monitors in Kosovo and the Serb security forces is going to be strained at best.

Another American vehicle, a Chevrolet Suburban in a similar shade of orange and containing David Scheffer, the State Department war crimes envoy, then passed on the other side of the crossroads, without stopping. How much longer the Americans keep up their efforts to broker a deal in the area remains to be seen. "It was one hell of a firefight last night," admitted one Western diplomat, who said he had been inside the police station just an hour before the first rocket crashed through a third-floor window. Diplomats in Belgrade are worried that Mr Milosevic may be prepared to use the continuing fighting around Malisevo as an excuse to send his special units back into central Kosovo. Several truckloads of heavily armed police were heading west from Pristina as darkness fell yesterday. "We are just sitting here," said an officer outside the Malisevo station. "It doesn't matter how many



A Serb policeman guarding the spot yesterday where his two colleagues were shot dead, apparently by members of the Kosovo Liberation Army

of us there are. The point is they are attacking us." □ **Beam:** Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor, yesterday pledged German participation in a Nato security force that will protect international observers monitoring a shaky peace in the Serbian province of Kosovo.

After an hour-long meeting in Berlin with Nato Secretary-General Javier Solana, Herr Schröder said that there would be no doubt about Germany's willingness to meet its international obligations with Nato.

It is clear that Germany will meet the obligations of its alliances without any ifs, ands, or buts." Herr Schröder said at a news conference. He did not go into the details of how Germany would contribute to the force.

He also said that Germany would take part in protecting observers with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

The 54-nation OSCE is scheduled to run a mission to secure a truce in the province, where Serbian security forces began a campaign in February to crush guerrillas from the separatist Kosovo Liberation Army. About 2,000 "verifiers" will be sent in to protect a fragile peace in the region, 200 of whom will be German.


## Britons killed in Angola raid

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

TWO Britons have been killed and a third taken hostage in a hit-and-run attack by rebels on a Canadian-owned diamond mine in Angola, the company reported yesterday. The three were not named.

Sunday's attack was on the Yewwene mine in northeastern Angola. At least five people were killed. Guerrillas from the rebel Unita movement have stepped up raids on Western mining concessions after

the breakdown of an agreement with the Angolan Government to share the proceeds. Unita, which has fought a bush war for 20 years, has financed its operations from diamond smuggling.



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THE TIMES TUESDAY 11 NOV 1998

# Schröder tabs

Wrecks of French warships sunk by pirates found

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# Schröder to break taboos on labour

THE German Chancellor will today deliver a personal declaration of independence, outlining a government programme that bears his stamp rather than that of his erstwhile rival, Oskar Lafontaine, the Finance Minister. That, at least, was the verdict of Gerhard Schröder's advisers yesterday who have been drafting the speech which officially inaugurates his rule as leader.

First leaks suggest that the Chancellor will urge a new approach to jobs. To soften up the unions he has given way to a long-standing demand to cur men's retirement age to 60.

Ursula Engelen-Kiefer, deputy leader of the trade union federation, welcomed the initiative and said that providing such retirement was voluntary, it could be included in talks this month with employers and the Government. Yet the financing of the project was unclear. Germany's problem is that it has too many pensioners and money may prove a serious stumbling block.

Early retirement has been tried with mixed results in the Ruhr steel industry. Older workers are shed, their retire-

**German Chancellor is to soften up the unions before getting tough on jobs, writes Roger Boyes in Bonn**

ment money funded partly by companies, partly by the Government, to make way for younger, cheaper and more flexible workers.

But the Chancellor's offer is essentially tactical. He intends to break several Social Democratic taboos on labour, working hours and holidays.

Bodo Hombach, the Minister without Portfolio who wrote a draft of today's speech, has been challenging the notion that part-time work should be burdened with extra social insurance payments. The unions are opposed to such a move. So they have been offered something more palatable, by way of distraction: retirement schemes which would allow many manufacturing industry workers to realise their dreams of living on the Costa del Sol supported by a generous pension.

Employment will be the dominant theme in today's

speech and indeed in Herr Schröder's four-year tenure. It will also be the Social Democrat-Green coalition's most vulnerable point. The Social Democrats and the Greens seemed yesterday genuinely nervous that an argument about environmental taxation could spark a political bushfire.

The Government has agreed to fund cuts in social security contributions — and thus stimulate jobs — with an increase in energy taxes. But Werner Müller, the Economics Minister, is pressing for wide exemptions for business from higher energy costs.

Jürgen Trittin, the Environment Minister and a Green politician, emphasised yesterday that there should be no general exemption from ecological taxes for the manufacturing industry. Only energy-efficient factories should be exempted. Herr Lafontaine called an emergency meeting with Herr Trittin to work out a common approach. Other Greens are urging that petrol taxes should be increased by ten pennings rather than the six pennings maximum advocated by the Chancellor.

His speech will promise tax cuts in part to benefit small business. And this is intended to head off criticism that the financial policies of Herr Lafontaine will exert a crushing burden on entrepreneurs.



Schröder to dictate government policy



The Duke of Kent puts on a yarmulka at the Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem. He later laid a wreath in memory of the Jews who died during the Second World War

## Germany recalls day of shame

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE German President commemorated the sixtieth anniversary yesterday of the start of the Nazi "Kristallnacht" pogrom against Jews as "one of the most shameful moments of German history".

At a ceremony in Berlin at one of the few synagogues to have survived the destruction that began on November 9, 1938, Roman Herzog said the events were "a slap in the face of humanity and civilization that we should always remember".

The Duke of Kent commemorated the Holocaust by beginning his trip to Israel yesterday with a visit to Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. "I have been honoured and deeply moved to visit this memorial to the victims of persecution," he wrote in the visitors' book.

The Duke's three-day trip to Israel has started controversially, however, as officials have had to deny that he had "snubbed" Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, by not seeking a meeting with him during his trip, the first official visit to Israel by a member of the British Royal Family.

## Wrecks of French warships sunk by pirates found

BY GABRIELLA GAMINI, SOUTH AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

EXPLORERS have found the splintered remains of nine French warships, sunk three centuries ago by Dutch pirates in the jagged coral reefs of Caribbean waters, 100 miles off the coast of Caracas.

The wrecks were found by a diving team led by the explorer Barry Clifford, but have been left at the bottom of the sea pending a proposal to build an "underwater history museum" of the sunken ship skeletons. This is to block bounty hunters from Miami who have already applied for permits to extract artefacts.

"These are the remnants of those who changed the history of the Caribbean and opened the way for the golden age of piracy," said Mr Clifford, who made the world's first discovery of a pirate ship off Cape Cod, Massachusetts in 1984. "The French warships are a spectacular find."

The sinking of the warships, which devastated the French Navy, created a power vacuum which opened the way for half a century of pirate control, between 1680-1730, in the waters which were a principal route for gold and silver being

carried from the Americas. Divers discovered the fleet's 70-gun, 500-man flagship, *Le Terrible*, which they said has an 18ft anchor. They found coral-encrusted rare bronze cannons and balls.

"We came across coral-covered pistols, rifles and swords and silver coins stacked up like gambling chips," said Charles Brewer Carias, a Venezuelan explorer who took part in the expedition.

The French fleet comprised 25 ships carrying 6,000 men. The warships had been on their way to invade the Dutch-held island of Curaçao in May 1678 when they were lured towards coral reefs by the pirates acting as mercenaries. Up to 18 ships sank, some 500 men drowned and another 1,000 starved to death or died of disease while marooned on the nearby islands of Las Aves (The Birds).

For years Venezuelan fishermen had seen parts of the galleons through the clear turquoise waters over the reefs. But Mr Clifford's team undertook the first scientific expedition to locate and identify the vessels.

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## how to be A GOOD PARENT

# Why I believe in arguments

LADY LONGFORD PUT CHILDREN BEFORE CAREER

The Countess of Longford gave up a chance of a career in Parliament when her political masters forbade her to have more children. She had contested Cheltenham for Labour before the Second World War and Oxford immediately after. She was in line for a safe seat when the edict came that shocked Elizabeth Longford, whose pioneering slogan was "a full life and a family life".

She was, by then, a mother of six. "They said 'Any more and you can't stand for us', I was so annoyed with my party for asking me to promise not to increase my family that I had two more. I'm so glad I chose babies rather than a seat in the Commons."

Lady Longford directed her ambitions into journalism, family life being her speciality, and later into her acclaimed biographies, but she fitted work around her eight children. Rather than make her own name in politics, she supported the political career of her husband, Francis Parkes, who became the seventh

# Unconditional love is the key

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD ON NURTURE IN THE NURSERY

Politicians who were fool enough to pontificate on "back to basics" need the day but for a parent to talk about parenting is even more dangerous. Parliamentarians were reckless to lay down rules on morality, for the Palace of Westminster is the largest glass house in the world. Parenting is even more of an uncharted minefield than that of sexual mores.

Hence Philip Larkin's bitter lines: "They free you up, your Mum and Dad? They may not mean to, but they do."

Oscar Wilde's observation also lives on: "Children begin by loving their parents. After a time they judge them. Rarely, if ever, do they forgive them." I don't know why I have such forgiving children, but around 40 years on we all seem to get along quite well. Certainly our meals together are still as uproarious as ever, and the conversation as uninhibited.

Like the French, when our children were small, we had Sunday lunch out. In this way there was no tension over the cooking, no recriminations if the meat was underdone or overdone. All present could shout

their views across the table, undeterred by the fact that they were not respecting the efforts of the cook. One of my sons said that, when asked where he had been educated, he always replied "in numerous restaurants, all over London."

One of the sadnesses of being an inner-city doctor is to see that, although most parents are every bit as instinctively self-sacrificing as a partridge which feigns a broken wing as it hazards its life for its young, some parents reject their children, fail to establish any rapport with them, and are both physically and mentally harsh. These, the unwilling parents, are probably beyond redemption.

Parents unable to forge longed-for links when their offspring are at a particular age should take comfort they may manage a better relationship with the children when they are older. Until then, they should console themselves that however hampered their parental efforts may be, what matters in the long term is the quality and quantity of love they feel,

even if they cannot always express it. Fortunately, my medical practice has always spanned wide differences in income groups and educational backgrounds, but whatever the circumstances, it is clear that some parents are born great while others acquire greatness through learning.

Although Dr Spock was the guru of my generation, I infinitely prefer Professor Ronald Illingworth's books, and used *Babies and Young Children* and *The Normal Child* as my guides to childcare in the ward or at home. The book which was most useful to my patients was *Do Babies have Worries?* by June Bingham, written for the then National Association of Mental Health and brilliantly illustrated.

Mrs Bingham and I seemed to share the same prejudices. Not for Mrs Bingham the Jesuit aphorism that the child's character is formed in the first seven years. We believed that it is how they are loved and treated as babies and toddlers that determines their future development.

Those parents who cannot love their children but regretably have some should seek professional advice. Otherwise, lack of parental enthusiasm and skills will perpetuate a cycle of emotional deprivation.

Love in the nursery can be divided into three types: affectionate and dutiful. Only one of these — the affectionate, accepting love — is truly helpful. Affectionate and accepting parents offer unconditional love. Children are terrified that they may lose their parents' love and cannot distinguish between sin and sinner. If they are naughty, and the naughtiness is mishandled, the child can be left thinking that not only is their domestic misdemeanour rejected, but they are rejected too.

Children should learn that however much one may be displeased by their actions, parental love goes far deeper than any transient irritation caused by broken flower vases, food refused, relatives insulted or dogs'

tails pulled. Accepting love must also mean that we love our children just as much when they are bottom of the form as top, when they are looking as smart as a guardsman or as bedraggled as a Glastonbury traveller.

In dutiful love, the parents' love is conditional. The child believes that the parents love him or her only because the accident of birth thrust the duty upon them. They feel the love is fragile and could be withdrawn if they lose their parents' approval and fail to succeed. The children subconsciously realise that there is a danger that the love may evaporate if they are too much trouble, too disgusting, too noisy — in fact, too human. The child is therefore expected to be understanding, obedient, beautiful and successful.

In possessive or smothering love, the child becomes the emotional crutch and toy of the parent. The parent is dependent on the child and on the child's dependence. Parents want to do everything for the child. They want to be its constant companion, its loved one, and want to deprive the child of the chance of growing up and out into the world.



"A big family learns to discuss things, to keep or lose their tempers," says Lady Longford, mother of eight, grandmother of 26 and great-grandmother of 14

and I think children miss out on that now."

Lady Longford is 92, with the skin of a woman decades younger. Although her eyesight and hearing are poor, she still writes. Lord Longford, also 92, has diminishing vision too, but the couple remain independent. When the daily help leaves, Lady Longford makes afternoon tea, resting her stick on the trolley and wheeling it wildly along the corridor.

One wall of the drawing room is lined with portraits of their children. In the downstairs lavatory are framed letters from some of their 26 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Half their country house in Sussex has been partitioned off for visiting family members, and a stream of cross-generational children on holiday from school come in to see granny and bask in her lively interest.

"Take your diary," she enjoins the children, who are going to Canada. "Write your impressions of Niagara Falls, and of a baseball bat."

She turns to me: "I didn't have any trouble getting my children to write their diaries. Some people think there is too much writing in our family."

One aspect of modern family life that disappoints Lady Longford is the disappearance of family meals. "I was rather shocked when two of my grandchildren came in while I was visiting their parents and, after being sweet to me, went to the fridge and took some food to wherever the television was."

"I was thrilled to discover that my daughter Rachel [Billington, the novelist] holds discussions over Sunday lunch. The children describe the most memorable event of the week, then the parents give theirs."

"My children had a cooked meal at school. When they came home they'd sit round the tea table together. Frank and I dined later. Antonia complained she was drinking milk in the hall until she was 17."

"They had bread and butter, Marmite, jam, cakes and buns, nothing meaty. I was thinking more of their social training than their vitamins. They were never forced to eat anything."

"If you're lucky enough to have a big family, they learn to discuss things, to keep or lose their tempers. Visitors would be shocked by the arguing that went on. There were two of my children I thought needed

bringing on and rivals who needed suppressing, but I was absolutely wrong. They work things out for themselves."

Lord and Lady Longford were married in October 1931; Antonia was born the following August. "One part of me was keen to have children, another part of me wanted more of a life with Frank first."

While those who want a child of a particular sex now pay large sums to clinics, Lady Longford was one of the first exponents of DIY methods. The radical gynaecologist Naomi Mitchison had explained her theories of pre-determining the sex of a baby through douching, encouraging an acidic or an alkaline environment. It worked.

All Lady Longford's births were at home. "I'd already imbibed the importance of the father's presence. It was an eye-opener for Frank. After Antonia's birth, I said I wasn't having any more, but Thomas came 11 months later. There was no epidural then, but for

his birth I asked for gas." She disagrees with opponents of pain relief in childbirth.

"When anaesthetics came in during Victoria's reign, people said you couldn't love your child unless you suffered."

Influenced by her husband, she became a Roman Catholic but does not agree with Rome's ban on family planning. "I used natural and artificial methods to space my family. If I was having children now, I'd be tempted to plan too much: I don't suppose I'd have eight," Lord Longford, entering the room, asks mischievously: "At what moment did you decide to go in for the big time?" This sets off a discussion on the greater role that today's fathers are expected to play. "I wasn't welcome, butting into the kitchen," he says.

"Probably, I was rather bossy and preferred to do a lot of it myself," admits his wife. "Frank was very good when the children became intelligent human beings who could argue. If the girls became de-

pressed, he bought them hats. I did the same but they weren't forced to listen. In the holidays there would be a reading before lunch and another at bedtime. They'd all sit around me. This depends on the parents being at home, which they may not be these days."

"My children were allowed to listen to the wireless only on weekends. They rebelled but there was only one set in the house."

Lady Longford taught one son, Kevin, at home for a year because he was not ready for school. She used home course books topped up with poetry, drama and nature studies. "We found a moth chrysalis that was about to hatch and put it on the nature table. We watched the moth creep out with trembling wings — then a sparrow darted in and swallowed it whole. Kevin let out a heart-breaking scream."

"My children weren't indulged. They had to recite a

poem after lunch on Sundays before they got their pocket money. If they saw something they wanted in a shop, they had to wait until Christmas or a birthday."

Lady Longford says parents have a duty to address sex education, "but if it's uncongenial to them, schools now do a good job". Her own mother, a doctor, told her nothing, so the young Elizabeth believed a friend who said menstrual blood was "milk gone bad". Her brother observed the silkworms he kept "and worked it out for himself."

Lady Longford broached the subject too early with Antonia: "We were walking along a lane in Oxford and I was really getting into it. Suddenly a little voice said 'I've heard enough. Mother, I don't want to hear any more.' She was seven and I realised that I'd been ramming it down her throat."

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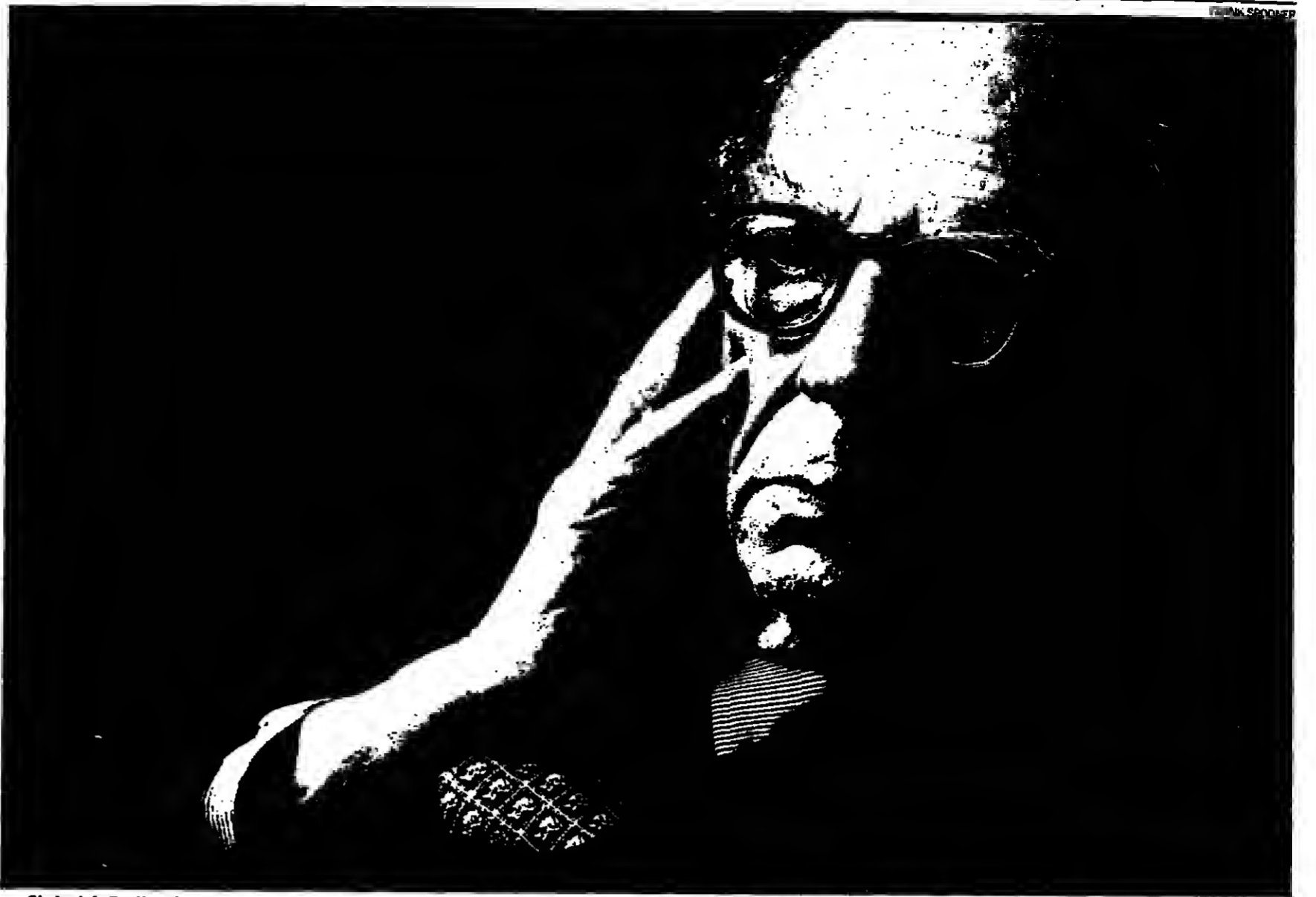
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# The day a sexual ingénue met Russia's fabled seductress



Sir Isaiah Berlin (1909-97), the philosopher, historian and diplomat, was seduced by the spirit of Anna Akhmatova but remained chaste on his side of the room

Isaiah Berlin refused to write an autobiography. But he agreed to talk about his past to Michael Ignatieff and from this has come the first full, authorised biography. In this extract he tells of the encounter which mattered to Berlin more than any other — his meeting with one of the great figures of the Russian intelligentsia, the poet Anna Akhmatova

In Leningrad in 1945, Isaiah met Anna Akhmatova, a poet of the pre-revolutionary era who had not been allowed to publish anything since 1925. Most of her apartment was occupied by Akhmatova's ex-husband, Nikolai Punin, his wife and child.

Akhmatova had a room overlooking the courtyard at the end of the hall. It was bare and denuded: no carpets on the floor or curtains at the windows, just a small table, three chairs, a wooden chest, a sofa, and near the bed a drawing of Akhmatova — head bent, reclining on a couch — rapidly sketched by her friend Amadeo Modigliani during her visit to Paris in 1911. It was the only icon of a Europe she had last seen 34 years earlier. Now stately, grey-haired, with a white shawl around her shoulders, she rose to greet her first visitor from that lost continent. Isaiah bowed — it seemed appropriate — for she looked like a tragic queen.

She was 20 years older than he, once a famous beauty, now shabbily dressed, heavy, with shadows beneath her dark eyes, but of proud carriage and coolly dignified expression. As they sat down on rickety chairs at opposite ends of the room and began talking, Isaiah knew her only as the brilliant and beautiful member of the pre-revolutionary poetic circle known as the Acemists as the brightest star of St Petersburg's wartime avant-garde and its meeting place, the Stray Dog Café. But of what had befallen her after the revolution, he knew nothing.

There was nothing falsely melodramatic about her tragic air. Her first husband, Nikolai Gumilyov, had been executed in 1921 on trumped-up charges of plotting against Lenin. The



Erotic interest: the poet Anna Akhmatova, 1889-1966

years of terror had begun for her then, and not in 1937. In the late summer of 1945 her son Lev, released earlier from Siberia to serve in the Soviet Army in Germany, at last returned home. She allowed herself to hope that her life might finally be about to improve.

Her conversation with Isaiah at first was formal and constrained. The room was poorly lit: she sat in one corner, he in the other, smoking Swiss miniature cigars with their plastic handles. Her face was wreathed in shadow, his in

smoke. She began asking him about her Russian emigrant friends. He was able to tell her that he had met the composer Arthur Lurie in New York during the war. She had had a brief affair with Lurie. In the far-gone era when she had frequented the Stray Dog Café and he had composed futurist music for performance there.

In her eyes, Isaiah was serving as messenger between the two Russian cultures — one in external exile, the other in internal exile — which had been split apart by the revolution. In the poems she wrote after his departure, she said that Europe was putting out its leaves: that a green shoot from the culture that had once been her had at last coiled its way into the Fontanny Dom.

But she was categorical about the question of emigration. She would never leave Russia. Her place was with her people and with her native language. Isaiah was quite sure he had never met anyone with such a genius for self-dramatisation — but, at the same time, he recognised that her claim to a tragic destiny was as genuine as that of anyone he had ever met.

He had always sought validation by genius: it mattered intensely to him that Virginia Woolf, Freud, Wittgenstein and Keynes had all seen his worth. But this encounter mattered more than any other. Here was the greatest living poet of his native language talking to him as if he had always belonged to her circle, as if he knew everyone she knew, had read everything that she had read, understood what she said and what she meant.

In reality, of course, this was an illusion: he knew far less about her than she supposed. Nonetheless, a moment of the purest communication, such as occurs only once or twice in any lifetime, was taking place. It was three in the morning

when her son, Lev Gumilyov, arrived. He was two years younger than Isaiah — 34 to Isaiah's 36 — and phenomenally well-read and educated despite having been arrested at the age of 24. He had read Proust and Joyce to the original, despite never having left the confines of the Soviet Union, and obviously thought of himself, like his mother, as preserving European standards of culture against the Soviet tide. He had been arrested for the crime of having Nikolai Gumilyov and Anna Akhmatova as his parents. Now he seemed convinced that his misfortunes were over and that he would resume a scholar's life in his native city. He went into the kitchen alone and found some boiled potatoes in a dish. His mother was embarrassed by the meagreness of their hospitality, but Isaiah remembered with pleasure how they divided the clutch of potatoes in the dish and ate them together in the near-dark room, by the glowing stove.

When her son had left, they talked about their favourite authors and for the first time began to disagree. He shared her reverence for Pushkin, her distaste for Chekhov's "mud-coloured world", but he could not share her love of Dostoevsky, and she had no time for his affection for Turgenyev. These were not mere differences of taste: they marked the boundaries between their emotional worlds — Isaiah drawn to the lightness, delicacy and irony of Turgenyev, but repelled by the violence, darkness and emotional intensity of Dostoevsky; Akhmatova identifying with Dostoevsky's intense depiction of inner states, and unable to bear the delicate subtleties of Turgenyev.

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ing their meeting with mystical, historical and erotic significance, while he fought shy of these undercurrents and kept a safe intellectual distance. They parted without embracing. At the train station on the border with Finland, a venerable Soviet lady customs official looked over the books, inscribed by the proscribed poet, bowed gravely and let him pass through the looking glass into the other world. Absently he journeyed through Helsinki, Stockholm and a Paris as "clean, beautiful, silent and empty" as a tomb. After a brief stopover in England, he returned to Washington. But his thoughts stayed with Akhmatova, for in a letter written in late February he was still talking about his visit as "the most thrilling thing that has ever, I think, happened to me".

The last of Isaiah's encounters with the great figures of the Russian intelligentsia occurred in 1965, when he managed to persuade Oxford University to grant Anna Akhmatova an honorary degree. He had telephoned her in Moscow in 1956, and she had received the news of his marriage with icy silence. They had both decided that it was not safe to meet. When she duly appeared in Oxford in June 1965, Isaiah was shocked to see how she had aged. She had gained weight and he thought, a little unkindly, that she resembled Catherine the Great. But she carried herself like an empress and delivered her opinions with imperial force. When she arrived outside Headington House and surveyed the splendid garden, the three-storey Georgian house and Isaiah's new wife, she observed caustically: "So the bird is now in its golden cage." The spark that had leapt between them 20 years earlier was now extinguished. He could only secure for her the recognition in the West that was her due: she could only acknowledge it with regal hauteur. He accompanied her as she stood in the Sheldonian

and heard herself acclaimed in Latin as "an embodiment of the past, who can console the present and provide hope for the future". She departed for Paris and home, and Isaiah never saw her again. She died the following year. His anti-communism had always been a declaration of allegiance to the intelligentsia, of whom she was the last surviving heroine. After her death, he exclaimed to a friend that he would always think of her as an "untarnished, unbroken" and "morally impeccable" approach to all the Marxist fellow-travellers who believed individuals could never stand up to the march of history.

Extracted from Isaiah Berlin by Michael Ignatieff, *Chatterbox*, £20. *Times* readers can buy a copy for £18 by calling The Times Bookshop on 0990 134459. Copyright Michael Ignatieff. This book will be reviewed by Anthony Quinton in *Thursday's* book pages

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... pulled. Accepting love must also mean that we love our children just as much when they are bottom of the farm as top, when they are looking as smart as a Guardsman or as he crossed as a Glastonbury reveler.

In dutiful love, the parents' love is conditional. The child believes that the parent love him or her only because of the accident of birth, that they are duty upon them. They feel the love is fragile and could be withdrawn if they lose their parents' approval and fail to succeed. The children subconsciously realize that there is a danger that the love may evaporate if they are too noisy — in fact, too human. The child is therefore expected to be unobtrusively obedient, beautiful and successful.

In possession of or smothering love, the child becomes the emotional crutch and toy of the parent. The parent is dependent on the child and the child is dependent on the parent. Parents want to do everything for the child. They want to be its constant companion, its loved one and want to deprive the child of the chance of growing up and out into the world.

GYPT



# Nowt so queer as a minister

Politicians should not be victims of a bitch-hunt, says Michael Gove

**I**s John Prescott a homosexual? He did seem curious, when he was in the front row of the press treatment of Nick Brown and Ron Davies. Is he one of the "gay mafia" *The Sun* has warned us about?

The evidence, admittedly, is only circumstantial. Not everyone who opted for the all-male world of the Merchant Navy in the Sixties was gay, and there are several men who have made a career out of waiting at tables who are resolutely heterosexual. The Deputy Prime Minister is, of course, married with children. But then so was Jeremy Thorpe and, of course, Ron Davies. And Mr Prescott's wife, brassy, northern, a hair-dresser, even. Well, isn't she exactly the sort of woman gay men adore, a camp icon to rank with Bet Gtroy or Barbara Streisand? Go on, John, take advantage of the new tolerance. When it comes to coming out the public can take the rough with the smooth, the Nick Browns with the Chris Smiths.

Preposterous? Well no more so than some of the generalisations which the "outing" of Cabinet ministers have provoked. *The Sun's* political editor Trevor Kavanagh, perhaps our finest tabloid journalist, and a man of usually sober judgment, has been provoked by the revelation that "at least four members of Tony Blair's Cabinet were actively gay".

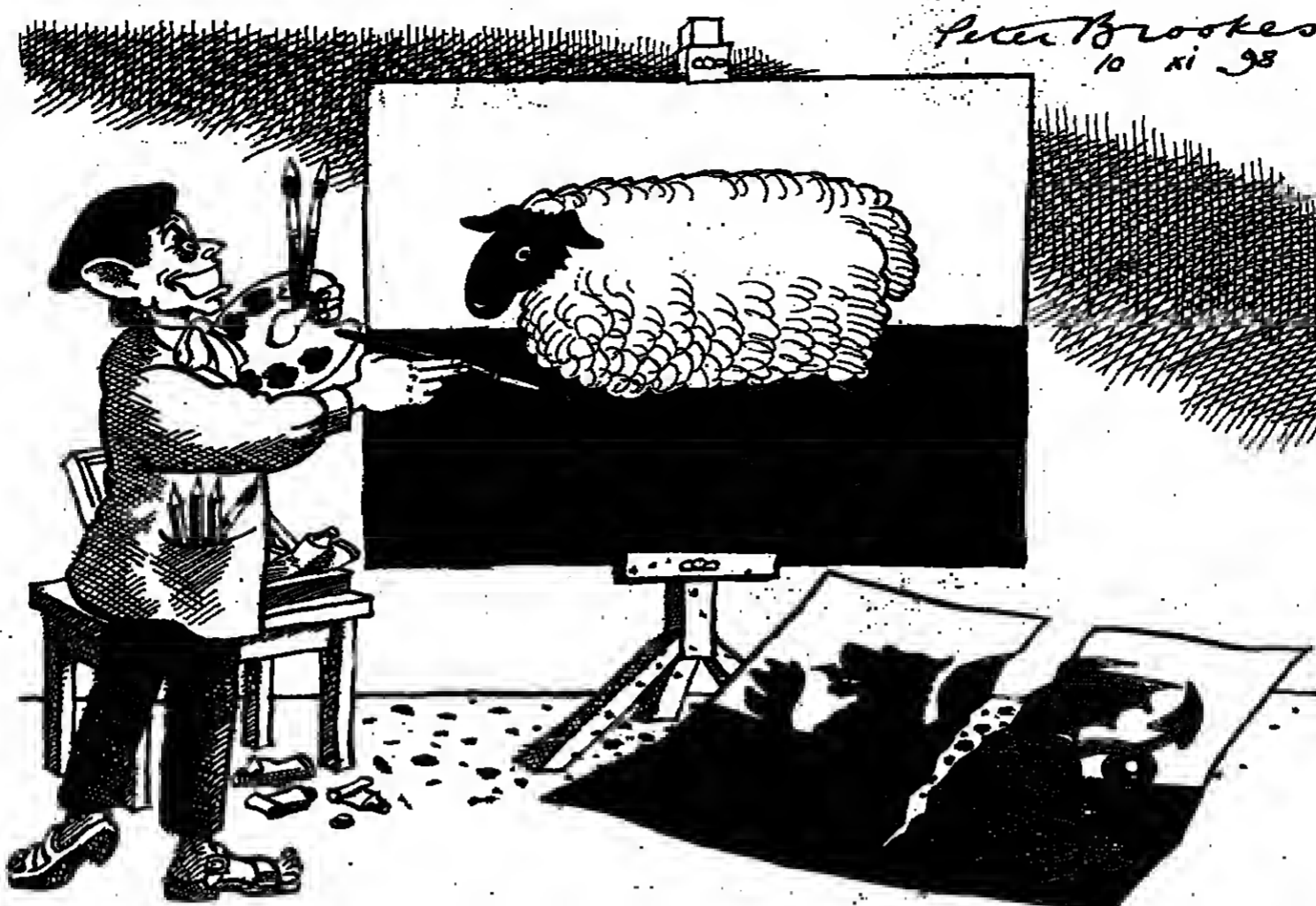
The right to privacy is a very British thing

Mr Kavanagh fears that these reasons will be more. His reasons? He argues that "politics is a form of ego-tripping performance art which, like the theatre and the law, attracts more than its share of camp personalities". Camp? Ron Davies? The former Welsh Secretary is a brutal fixer who is as camp as Vinnie Jones. In so far as his downfall proves anything it proves how difficult it is to know our fellow men, and how dangerous to judge by stereotypes.

Who is the campiest figure in Parliament? Paul Boateng, perhaps, who dresses as though he had been kicked out by Mr Humphries from Grace Brothers. Is he free? Well, young Mr Boateng has five children and a deep Christian faith. If he's homosexual then he's got a funny way about it.

Although those who are apparently exercised about homosexuality in public life seem confident in their generalisations about gay men - camp, performance artists, mafia-like and so on - they are still surprisingly at a loss to know just who fits the bill. They've got an Identikit photo but so many of the suspects don't just match the stereotype. So, unable to trust circumstantial evidence, *The Sun* insists on a confession, demanding "we have a right to know".

We have a right to guess, gossip, speculate, and even draw conclusions. We have a right to be prejudiced against the camp, to stereotype performance artists and to tolerate gay Agriculture Ministers. But we do not, and should not, force people to declare their



"THAT'S MORE LIKE A WELSH ASSEMBLY LEADER..."

# When Dilly went to war

Amid the pomp and the poppies, a Suffolk farmworker reminds us of the quiet heroes still in our midst

**I** know what I shall think of during the two minutes' silence tomorrow: a hill in Southern Italy. For earlier this year we went to Monte Cassino with our friend Dilly, and no history lesson, book or film has ever brought war home so vividly. We rightly remember the dead, and study the generals and the poets; but sometimes it is good to be reminded that still in our midst, saying little, are hundreds of quiet old men with memories to make your hair stand on end.

George Sharp, universally known as Dilly, is a Suffolk farmworker. His wisecracks are familiar to anybody who followed my husband, Paul Heiney, through eight years of farming columns in *The Times*. We knew Dilly had a war record, mainly because the first time our sheep got loose on the marsh, he dived through a hedge to cut them off, roaring "Harr! I was with *Monty*, in the desert". Another time our son interviewed him about the battles of Monte Cassino for a primary school project, and he reluctantly gave a few details of the terrible ascent of the Rocca Janula, climbing the ridge over the bodies of dead comrades because "you just followed orders, see?"

Mainly he did not speak of it, but kept his chickens, hooded our trawlers and grew impressive vegetables. Lately, though, he let slip that he was thinking of taking a trip with his friend Shirley to see Monte Cassino again. "Check up on it." He is not in the habit of leaving Suffolk, let alone England; talk of an organised "battlefield tour" was shelved with horror when he discovered that there were lectures. "Don't want a lecture. I was there." Diffidently, we suggested that during that March travel-doldrum when airlines offer improbably low fares, we should come, too, ease the way and drive the hire car. We said we would be honoured to go with a real veteran. We did not know how honoured.

We picked them up at 5am. Dilly had been up at 3.30 cooking himself porridge, bacon and eggs. "Got to get a good breakfast." Last time he left these shores he was 18 years old, off on a troopship with the Norfolk and Suffolks to an undeclared destination which turned out to be Africa. At Garwick, he remarked without awe: "Last time I went on a plane, I had to sit on my pack." At Naples airport - we fancy ourselves as European

travellers but actually speak very little Italian and generally resort to strangled British gestures and monosyllables - Dilly deployed Tommies' Italian from 1943, becoming again a confident 19-year-old lance corporal in charge of his own Bren gun, with a cheerful "Hello, Cianini!" for all comers. With a few words and many flapping gestures of the elbows, he readily conveyed to assorted car-hire officials that last time he was here, the trouble was the Germans had pinched all the chickens, making it hard to live off the land. "Tedesc - had the chickens - bombs - boom - boom."

We drove north up the autostrada, odd memories surfacing. "Gor - how it rained. Rained all that winter. We slept out in that rain every night, under a gas cape." We paused for a sandwich, at the servizio counter Dilly picked up a self-assured young Serb, hitching to Bologna to meet a lorry bound for Belfast. He aimed to be a nature-warden in Londonderry. Old wars and new merged: all this boy's family, he said, were killed in Sarajevo. Dilly told him how his company forded the swollen river on the march from the Adriatic. "The major swum it ahead of us with a tug-of-war rope, the rest of us waded through, up to our chests, holding the rope."

We drove on; Dilly told us about the landscape of 1943 and the women in the fields with mancocks about the high time they caught a pig and ate it, and the thrill when lush American food parcels were accidentally dropped among British troops pale after months of bully-beef and biscuits.

Then we saw Monte Cassino. Dilly craned out of the car, saying "Worth it. Just to be on this road". Our luggage was full of history books but we had not quite understood the chronology. At 19 he had seen the medieval Benedictine monastery at

and chicken-houses; he identified the spot, unchanged except for a few rockfalls. We looked for a while, took a picture, and left. Next day was the summit, noble against the sky, day after day through weeks of bitter conflict. On February 15, 1944, he saw it flattened by Allied bombers in one of the worst miscalculations of the war (there were no Germans there, butly monks and refugees, who died). After the war it was rebuilt what Dilly saw from the hire car was history rolled back.

That night, as rain pattered on the hotel roof, it was hard not to think of those poor shivering boys under gas capes. Hundreds of them had nothing, but death ahead; yet Dilly was marked out by a pair of bright eyes, healthy years back home, hoeing and chasing sheep. No sense to be made of it.

The next day at the monastery we found an old monk who had been there in the bombing, then went to the cemeteries. A British war cemetery is a wonderful thing; an austere dormitory of graves, apparently as impersonal as a rank of infantry - until you open a brass door in the shelter and there are registers of every name, showing the number of the grave and the name of relatives. In minutes, Dilly found his sergeant, shot down just ahead of him; we withdrew a little, to read the hundreds of names on the monuments.

We took a break from these memories to drive up Vesuvius, where Dilly gallantly bought me a tortoise made of lava, and to Naples, where his universal air of benign authority made an Italian tourist ask him for directions to general meritment. Back in Cassino he picked up more elderly new friends (Lla guerri! Boom, boom! Tedesc - I was here - remember? Several did). Finally, we looked for the actual ridge to the Rocca Janula which he climbed on the worst night, under shellfire and over the dying, gun-barrel on his back. The route lay up narrow backstreets in a jumble of allotments

and chicken-houses; he identified the spot, unchanged except for a few rockfalls. We looked for a while, took a picture, and left. Next day was the summit, noble against the sky, day after day through weeks of bitter conflict.

Last time Lance Corporal Sharp left Italy, it was a longer business: a march northward, mopping-up battles, Pisa, then Bologna, where news came of the German surrender. Then a spell on garrison duty in Austria ("Schönburn Palace - nice place" and a victory march past Marshal Zukhov in Prague. We had some times wondered, we children of a supposedly sophisticated age, where the old man with the hoe got his breezy self-assurance. Now we knew: like tens of thousands of other Tommies, before he was 20 he saw death and despair and triumph, judged officers and men against lurid horror, marched through the heart of Europe and into history.

**W**hen his country had finished with Dilly it gave him a suit, a hat, a raincoat and a rail warrant home to Darsham. He walked home from the station, and his mother got his tea, and that was the end of Dilly's war. So he tended cows and hoes beet for 50 years, and minded his own business.

I do not quite know why it moves me so. Remembrance Sunday is for the dead, and poppies for the damaged survivors; Dilly was luckier, and came home. Maybe it is just that only the contemplation of such a long, well-led unpretending life can bring home what it was that the other boys lost. There were tens of thousands of them, as willing and dutiful, as brave and full of fun and fond of stolen chickens. The only difference is that they did not grow old.

The old soldiers who visit their friends in the cemeteries know this very well. But as a nation we have changed, losing notions of virtue and obedience and sacrifice. Sometimes it seems that we have become a generation of litigious whippersnappers, where survivors sue for trauma instead of lighting candles of thanksgiving, and oven doctors and policemen clamour for the label of victim. A curtain of understanding and expectation, usually impenetrable, has fallen between the generations. We were glad, over those few days, to have that curtain raised.

# Abbey ahoy!

**SIR WALTER RALEIGH** is to go up into a puff of republican smoke. The Dean of Westminster and Betty Boodryd want to topple the statue of one of Elizabeth I's favourites. He has long cast an explorer's eye over the Ministry of Defence, but now Sir Walter looks likely to be shunted off to the Abbey. The future of the lifelike bronze, by William Macmillan, will be decided by Westminster Council later this month. The statue, unveiled in 1959 by John Hay Whitney, American Ambassador, was commissioned to mark the 350th anniversary of the landings at Jamestown, Virginia.

Supporters of the move say the statue is dwarfed by the bronzes of Montgomery, Albion and Slim. A better home, the Rev Wesley Carr and the Speaker believe, would be outside St Margaret's Church, where the adventurer was executed and buried. Nicholas Soames, the former Minister for Defence, supports the move: "I always thought it was in the wrong place."

However, Andrew Roberts, the historian, detects the waft of political correctness from anti-imperialists such as George Robertson, the Defence Secretary: "These patriotic pirate adventurers receive a bad press nowadays," he says. "There is stacks of space outside the MoD. I hope this has nothing to do with Walter being a slave trader and our first tobaccoist."



she is looking for a Scottish castle. Warning comes from the Duke of Hamilton, with a little pad of his own to maintain: "The thing is to avoid the dereliction we have already seen. A likely target is Taymouth Castle (price £5.5 million) which 'has plenty of room for Cher to rattle around in'."

**Nana no, no**  
NANA MOUSKOURI has peevled Lord Plumb. Our mature burgundy of an MEP was to be serenaded by the Greek at a retirement dinner. Plumb expected Nana at the Pitville Pump Room with just a

**Benjie's bash**  
OUT and about in London this week will be Benjamin Wegg-Prosser. Peter Maudsloni's portable brain and emergency dinner date. Ben has been invited to *Tatler's* Little Black Book party at Mr Chows, a smart singles night for young eligibles (the recently wed Santa Palmer-Tomkinson and Simon Sebag-Mandefiore met there). Ben, more manly than Mandy, might side up to an illustrious invitee: the Princess Royal's tongue-studded daughter, Zara Phillips; Peter loves a royal.

**DAMP** Highland air could soon fill the minuscule ribcage of Cher. The chanteuse, pictured, tells me that

she is looking for a Scottish castle. Warning comes from the Duke of Hamilton, with a little pad of his own to maintain: "The thing is to avoid the dereliction we have already seen. A likely target is Taymouth Castle (price £5.5 million) which 'has plenty of room for Cher to rattle around in'."

**guitarist but the diva** (a fellow MEP and chippy about the Elgin Marbles) demanded to bring her 12-piece band, and wanted £10,000 expenses. "She wanted to come like a big star," says Dr. Paek Westwyn, Plumb's chairman. "I had to say, 'Bye bye, Nana!'"

**DRUNK ON SET** No, not Peter O'Toole, but a Grey Berkshire pig, playing Napoleon in a film adaptation of *Animal Farm*. Shooting in Co Wicklow was halted when he reported unable to continue. "There was Guinness mixed with feed," says an animal rights type. "Any farmer that raises pigs in Ireland will tell you Guinness is good for 'em - they give it to recheorses. It was a little unsteady and I understand there may have been some snoring."

Yet on site Finbarr Hoslin reports: "It seems that the pig had been fed more than it should - it is playing the lead - and was over the limit. When it came round in



**MY favourite with cocoa and slippers**. Francine Stock, above, *laine of Newsnight*, is to publish her debut novel, *A Foreign Country*. "It is about judgements," she says. "I read Italian at university and came across papers about emigrants which set me thinking. I was ill a few years ago and realised that becoming a grand old dame and turning out books was remote."

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Closed files are...

**ASSISTING THE S**  
AWomen's Unit...



AFTER GINGRICH

An internationalist departs the Washington stage

Anyone who cares about isolationist trends in American politics, and who understands the importance of America's continuing engagement in the world's affairs, should be concerned by the end of Newt Gingrich's tenure as Speaker of the US House of Representatives. Mr Gingrich's decision to stand down was as sudden as his eruption, four years ago, onto the Washington stage. The cause lies partly in the man, an ebullient and too often abrasive political operator. It was made inevitable by his misreading of the electoral mood. As the principal Republican Party strategist in this year's mid-term elections, he was bound to take the blame for its failure. But although the Republicans have decided that Mr Gingrich is now an electoral liability, this should not blind them, or observers of the American scene, to the extent of his achievements.

programme capable of winning back the votes that have deserted it this time. The significance of his departure extends, however, well beyond domestic politics. Other nations, perhaps this one most of all, may not care to recognise the fact, but internationalists such as President Bush and, latterly at least, President Clinton, are relatively rare in America's inherently inward-looking political life. The aspect of Mr Gingrich's policies which will be most missed is his understanding of the importance of international questions. He is the most coherent exponent of internationalism on the Right of the American political spectrum, and one with the skills to fuse that eloquence and understanding into a platform capable of attracting bipartisan support. In a chamber with increasing numbers of Republican isolationists and Democratic protectionists, the Speaker stood for free trade and international engagement.

AN OPEN AND SHUT CASE

Closed lists are bad for democracy

At every election in British history, voters have placed their crosses against the candidate of their choice. Next year, at the European elections, the Government would like to break this tradition. Last week the House of Lords rejected — for a second time — an attempt to sever the direct link between voter and representative. Today the Government will attempt to reverse this defeat in the House of Commons, insisting that the new system should be implemented, but that it will be reviewed after next June's elections.

drawn up by their party — the so-called "closed" lists. If the Government fails to overturn the Lords' amendments, voters will be able to elect the candidate of their choice from an "open" list. Votes will first be assigned to the parties, and seats will be distributed proportionally. But the candidates sent to Brussels will be those who win the most votes, not those who top the party list. The Home Secretary, Jack Straw, has attacked open lists as "eccentric". He asserts that "it is not true that voters will be informed about the relative merits of the candidates," and that "what they are informed about is the relative merits of the parties."

ASSISTING THE SISTERS

A Women's Unit still has a job to do

Newspaper stories about "girl power", about more female than male undergraduates, about women being better suited to new jobs than men, may suggest that a Women's Unit in Whitehall is hardly now required. Add to that a proper scepticism about bureaucratic initiatives and yesterday's "relaunch" by Baroness Jay of Paddington and Tessa Jowell may seem an even more unnecessary distraction.

male colleagues. And most teenage girls are likely at times to agonise about their weight and lose confidence in themselves. Enlightened employers already recognise the importance of helping parents of both sexes to combine their work with their family responsibilities. They know that good staff are more likely to stay if their hours are tailored to their lives. The employees gain, and so do their dependent children or elderly parents. But society wins too as families become stronger and more stable. And flexible working can also entice more parents into the workforce, helping to boost the economy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Public interest in sexuality of MPs

From Mr R. Temple Sir, The media has every right to disclose and discuss an MP's sexual orientation (reports and leading article, November 9) so long as Parliament continues to decide such matters as the age of homosexual consent, rather than allow a referendum on the issue.

Homebuyers may not be helped by vendor surveys

From Mr Raymond Durrant Sir, The Government's proposal that houses and flats should be offered for sale with structural surveys carried out before the property is offered in the market (report, November 9) is superficially attractive but fundamentally flawed.

The people who will lose out will be the cash buyers who do not need to pay a professional to tick a box to tell them what they can see themselves.

Yours faithfully, JOHN RATCLIFFE, Paddock Hall, The Street, Monks Eleigh, Ipswich IP7 7AU, November 5.

Yours faithfully, R. TEMPLE, 3 Bramble Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 15Y, November 9.

Yours faithfully, RAYMOND DURRANT (Chartered Surveyor), 195 Marshallswood Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 4XA, November 5.

Yours faithfully, KEITH PARKINSON, Flat 30, Monmouth Close, W4 2LJ, November 5.

Yours faithfully, IAN N. NORRIS, Chief Executive, Architecture & Surveying Institute, St Mary House, 15 St Mary Street, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 3WD, asinsr@aol.com, November 5.

From Mr A. John Corbett Sir, It is useless for politicians to protest that their private lives do not affect the discharge of their duties. That is not for them or their political colleagues and friends to decide.

From Professor Emeritus Leslie Collier Sir, The convoluted and expensive methods now being suggested to avoid gazumping would be quite unnecessary under the French system.

Yours faithfully, JOHN RATCLIFFE, November 5.

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS COUPER, 79 Devonshire Road, W4 2HU, November 5.

Yours faithfully, A. J. CORBETT, 15lares, Long Lane, Hermitage, Thatcham, Berkshire RG18 9QT, November 9.

From Mr John Ratcliffe Sir, I cannot see why sellers paying for home surveys will prevent gazumping; but hopefully it would end the irritating problem of more than one survey having to be paid for to satisfy different potential lenders.

From Sir Nicholas Couper Sir, Giving estate agents and home-owners the responsibility of providing a "seller's pack" to include a valuation and a survey is like putting the sharks in charge of the aquarium.

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS COUPER, 79 Devonshire Road, W4 2HU, November 5.

Business schemes and Brown's plans

From Mr D. H. Drew Sir, You report (November 4) that the Government wants more employee share-ownership schemes. The thinking behind all these schemes is that the employee, as a part owner of the company, allies himself more closely with his company and that through his hard work and good management he can increase the value of his shares, thus accumulating some tax-free capital.

possible to the one you work for. If you work for a company producing suntan lotion, invest in a company producing thermal underwear, say, and you should win whatever the weather.

Emperor's new clothes

From Mr Brian Conneller Sir, I see you are promoting Frederick Hohenstaufen as a goodie (report, November 3; see also letter, November 4) largely on the rather shaky theory that anyone who quarrels with the Pope must necessarily be one. You report that he was loved by his subjects. Runciman, on the contrary, thinks him "unlikeable, cruel, selfish and sly".

From Professor Dylan Jones-Evans Sir, Whilst commentators have been examining the macroeconomic effects of the Chancellor's pre-Budget statement, the continued reform in small business policy has been largely ignored.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD WILSON, 35 Craner Street, Stafford ST17 4BX, November 5.

By contrast, his near contemporary, King Edward I of England, was 6ft 2in tall.

Yours faithfully, DAN H. DREW, Lower Postwick, Whitbourne, Worcester WR6 5SS.

Yours faithfully, DYLAN JONES-EVANS (Professor of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management), Welsh Enterprise Institute, University of Glamorgan, Pontypridd CF7 1DL, djones2@glam.ac.uk, November 4.

Yours sincerely, DAVID ABULAFIA (Author, Frederick II: A Medieval Emperor, Pimlico, 1992), Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge CB2 3TA, November 4.

From Mr R. Wilson Sir, I was taught that to invest in your employer's shares is a bad policy because, if the company performs badly, not only may you lose your job but your investment will at the same time lose much of its value.

Yours faithfully, QUENTIN GOGGS, Easterton Manor, Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 4NX, October 30.

Yours faithfully, G. A. MCKENZIE, Junipers, Telcomia Close, Headley Down, Hampshire GU35 8ED, November 6.

From Mr R. Wilson Sir, I was taught that to invest in your employer's shares is a bad policy because, if the company performs badly, not only may you lose your job but your investment will at the same time lose much of its value.

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'Wicked' chocolate

From the Director of the Biscuit, Cake, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance Sir, In her article "Wicked Temptation" (Crème de la Crème, November 4), Katherine Bergen describes some of the main ingredients in "commercial chocolate bars" as "... saturated vegetable fat and powdered milk". This is incorrect.

Aid to Afghanistan

From Mr Quentin Goggs Sir, Neither your leading article of October 30, "Victims of politics", nor Michael Dynes's report (same day) on the decision by Brussels to cut off aid to Afghanistan mentioned the fact that, following President Clinton's bombing of Khartoum (report, August 2), our own Foreign Office threatened to cut off any Department for International Development grants to charities which did not immediately remove all their expatriate workers and undertake not to replace them.

Getting in line

From Mr G. A. McKenzie Sir, I think that Mr John Maher (letter, November 6) is right: queuing was abandoned in England until comparatively recent times. I remember, as a schoolboy in the later 1930s in what is now part of South London, that people waiting for a bus would stand around in the general vicinity of the bus stop sign. They would not stand close to strangers and would affect a certain nonchalance. However, everyone had taken note of those arriving later and, when the bus arrived, sharp tongues were sufficient to correct anyone attempting to board out of turn.

Yours sincerely, JOHN NEWMAN, Director, The Biscuit, Cake, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance, 37-41 Bedford Row, WC1R 4JH, November 6.

Under surveillance

From Mr Anthony G. Phillips Sir, Your brief report (November 3) of a train driver caught on film playing a fruit machine while officially on duty, typifies the extent to which we are under surveillance, often without our knowledge.

Worth a flutter?

From Mr John W. Holladay Sir, I too am in my sixties and suffer from a weakening heart (report, "Loren admits heart problem", October 29) so please, no more photographs of Ms Sophia Loren, no matter how small.

Letters for publication maybe faxed to 0171-782 5046, e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

NOVEMBER 10 1998 A Labour rake's progress The Tory legacy is being squandered, says John Reidwood

The afternoon, at the Tories'... The Conservative Party... The Tories'... The Conservative Party... The Tories'... The Conservative Party...

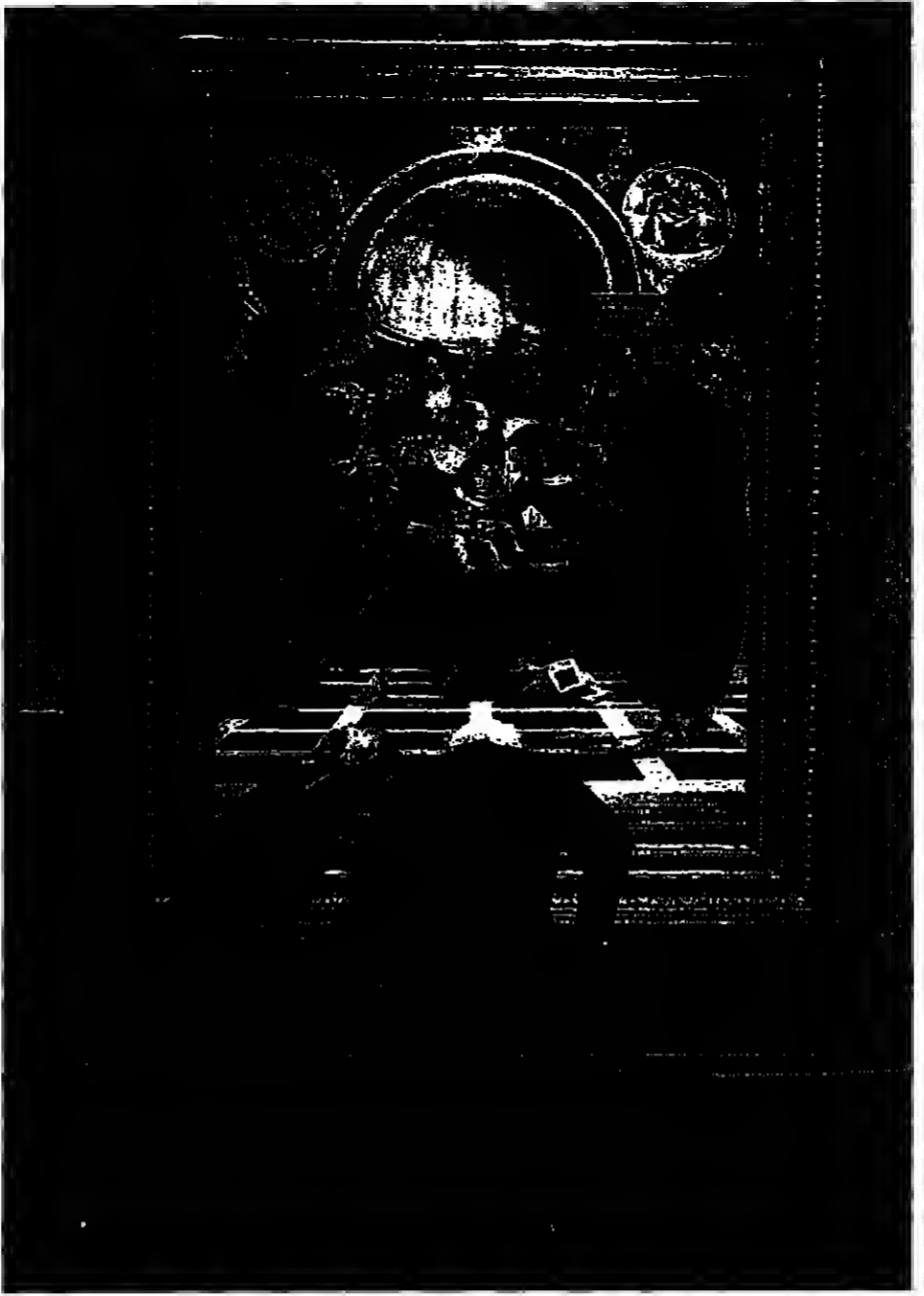
A... The Tories'... The Conservative Party... The Tories'... The Conservative Party... The Tories'... The Conservative Party...

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE November 9: The Queen, Patron, and The Duke of Edinburgh...

Sheriff's reception

High Sheriff of Greater London The High Sheriff of Greater London and Mrs John Gough...



A painting by the Italian artist Luca Signorelli, 1441-1523, entitled 'The Circumcision'...

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G.T.G. Collier and Miss M.E. Turner The engagement is announced between Geoffrey Thomas Grey...

Birthdays

Sir Peter Baldwin, former civil servant, 76; Mr Robert Carrier, cookery writer and broadcaster, 75...

Carmen's Company

The following have been installed as officers of the Carmen's Company for the ensuing year...

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Martin Luther, Protestant reformer, Eisenben, Germany 1483...

Church news

Appointments The Rev Roger Anders, NSM, New Mills (Derby), to be NSM, Little Finborough...

Nature notes

Crowds of fieldfares are coming into Britain from Scandinavia. They are large thrushes with a grey head...

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PERSONAL COLUMN

BIRTHS: On October 29th 1998 in Lewisham to Sarah (nee Lewis) and John...

DEATHS: COLLIERIE - At the Princess Royal Hospital, Enfield, on November 8th...

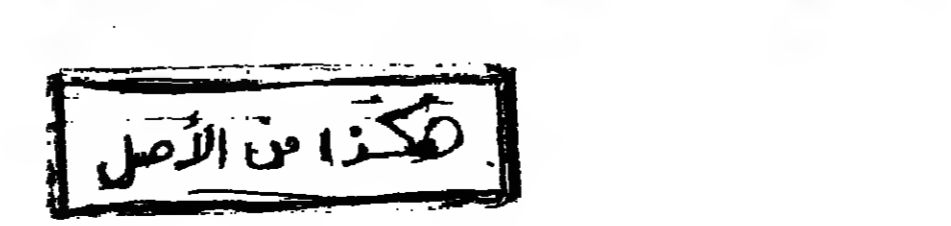
DEATHS: FERRAND - Resting, passed away peacefully on November 8th 1998...

DEATHS: HOOR - David, On November 6th 1998 aged 74 years of Hale, Cheshire...

DEATHS: MIDDLETON - Susan Jennifer, peacefully on November 7th 1998 after a long illness...

TICKETS FOR SALE: ACCESS TICKETS Available in all main UK towns...

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880



Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, featuring a portrait of a man and various text elements, possibly a recruitment or service advertisement.

OBITUARIES

Mr N.K. Lawrence and Miss N.C. Bussy... The engagement is announced between Neil, son of Mr and Mrs Lawrence, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew Bussy...

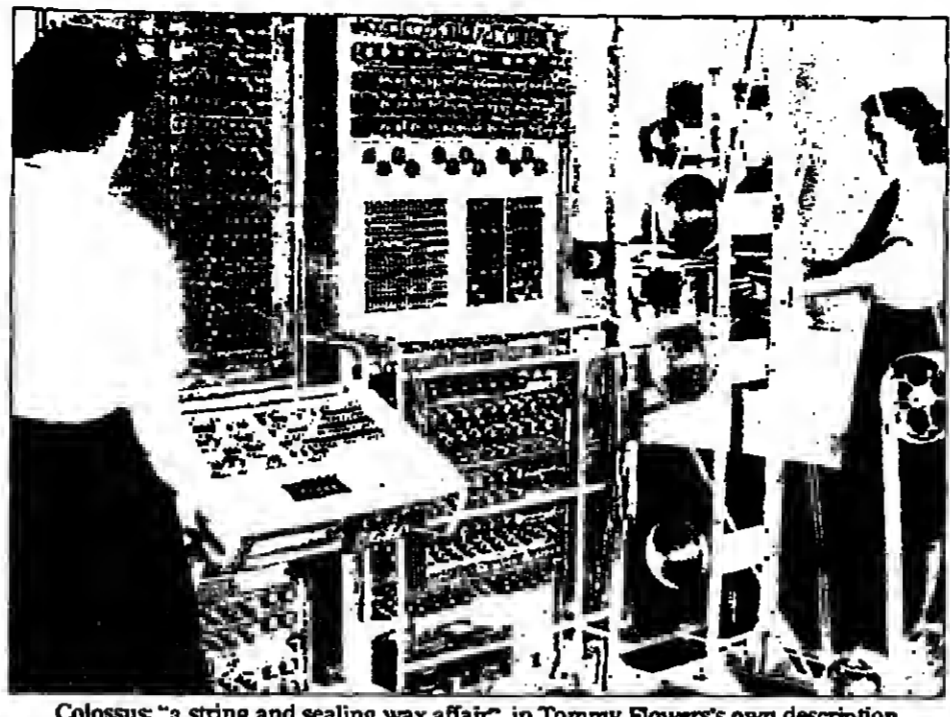
Mr S.G. Day and Miss L.M. Andrews... The marriage took place on Saturday, November 7, at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street...

Birthdays today... Mr. Robert Wade, 75, of 15 St. George's Road, St. John's, Nfld., died on October 22, 1998...

Carmen's Company... Luncheon... The company was founded in 1963 by Gerry Long...

TOMMY FLOWERS

Tommy Flowers played a crucial role in the wartime codebreaking operations at Bletchley Park. Without those operations, as is now well known, the German U-boats might have won the Battle of the Atlantic...



Colossus: "a string and sealing wax affair", in Tommy Flowers's own description

At the peak of Bletchley Park's activity, the ugly Victorian mansion and its surrounding complex of huts were home to some 8,000 people, working round-the-clock shifts and processing German cipher traffic at the rate of some 10,000 messages a day...

The Colossus, on which Flowers was to work, was a vastly more complex device, designed to crack a vastly more complex code. By decrypting the Germans' Enigma-enciphered Morse transmissions, the Bletchley team secured vital information on the everyday movements of the German Armed Forces...

As a result, the Heath Robinson was replaced by the first Colossus machine, with 1,500 valves, constructed at Dollis Hill and transported to Bletchley at the end of 1943. The size of a small room, and weighing around a ton, even this, Flowers later said, was "a string and sealing wax affair"...

By the end of the war a total of 11 machines were in operation. All but one were destroyed on Churchill's orders, smashed into pieces "no bigger than the human hand"...

Lacking an effective memory and with no stored program, the Colossus was not quite what is understood by a computer today, and the binary logic of its ton of machinery could not be handled by the tiniest microchip...

JEAN MARAIS

Jean Marais, French actor, died on November 8, aged 84. He was born Jean Villain-Marais in Cherbourg on December 11, 1913.

immediately took Marais under his wing. Five months later Marais was cast as Galahad in Cocteau's play Les Chevaliers de la table ronde. When Marais strode onto the stage, tore open his tunic and displayed his bare breast, all Paris knew that a new force had entered Cocteau's life...



improve his skills: in the year that saw him star in another Cocteau play, La Machine à écrire (1941), he directed and designed Racine's Britannicus. The following year he spent a stormy period with the Comédie Française, and left without playing any leading roles...

which now prompts smiles, not least for the sight of its star in lederhosen. But in La Belle et la bête, especially, their instincts could not be faulted: this magical film is still perhaps cinema's best excursion into the world of fairytales. In 1948 the pair returned to Les Parents terribles, filmed in a powerfully claustrophobic version, shot almost entirely in a single room...

GERALD LONG

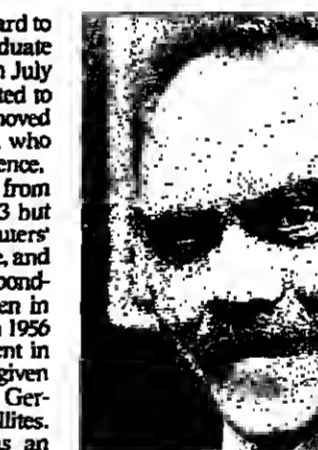
Gerald Long, former Chief Executive of Reuters and later Managing Director of The Times, died in Paris on November 8 aged 75. He was born on August 22, 1923.

When Gerry Long became general manager of Reuters, he said his aim was to be remembered as the "second founder" of the company, and in many ways he was. Others might have had the original ideas for new commercial services that began in the 1960s...

for its news services plus often bitterly negotiated monetary assessments from its owners, the newspapers of Britain, Australia and New Zealand. Long put the finances on a firm footing and convinced the newspaper publishers who constituted the board that it must borrow money.

immovable opinions and was often bad-tempered. But he could also show great charm and humour, and had friends and admirers throughout the world. Many of his staff disliked him, though many did not express this view until after he had left...

bridge University Appointments Board to suggest candidates for a new graduate training scheme, and Long joined in July 1948. In December 1950 he was posted to Frankfurt, and ten months later he moved to Paris, working for Harold King, who was to be a lifelong friend and influence.



the equipment for the desktop units called Stockmasters. The demand from business houses in Europe was enormous, and soon the system was making a profit for Reuters. These profits were healthy, but those from Reuter Monitor Money Rates and Monitor Dealing were to be immense...

flotation of Reuters and the chance of becoming a multi-millionaire (like Kenfrew and Nelson), causing one writer to describe him as "the tragic hero" of the new Reuters. Long himself never complained of missing out — indeed, he did not give the impression of caring much for money as such...

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ANNOUNCEMENTS... THE LUTHER CELEBRATION... ON THIS DAY

THE LUTHER CELEBRATION... This evening the church bells were rung, to remind the lieges of the great Luther Commemoration, which is to be celebrated tomorrow...

ON THIS DAY... November 10, 1883... Widespread celebrations took place to mark the 400th anniversary of the birth of Luther who originated the greatest intellectual movement the world has seen since the time of the Apostles...

was a son of the people, and grew up amid traditions which had been handed down from old Pagan times. His clear intellect revolted against the lies and hypocrisies which he saw in the doctrine of Rome. He perceived that the root of the evil lay in the idea that a man can sanctify his life by what the Romish Church called good works...

With nothing but lies, envy, hatred, and malice around him, Luther's life, he being what he was, could not but be one of conflict, and he remained a spiritual warrior till death. The spirit of defiance, however, in which he began the contest calmed down into quiet steadfastness, and he changed the attitude of a threatening challenge for that of deliberate defence. He wished to break the power of the Church, to tear his country free from Rome, and to hear his countryman Luther was not a scholar in the strict sense of the word, but he knew two things better than any of his contemporaries — namely, the Bible and his mother tongue. His words, as Richer said, were half battles; he was the mightiest of German speakers.

Customers can be trusted, says study

THE dog-eat-dog world of business can be remarkably honest when it comes to stealing other people's ideas (Rodney Hobson writes).

EMU threatens cashflow of smaller businesses

By ROONEY HOBSON

A TIDAL wave of late payment could follow the introduction of European economic and monetary union, Allied Irish Bank said at a seminar in London last week.

Delegates heard that EMU could pose a further threat to the cashflow of small businesses in an economic climate that is already tightening. The bank urged businesses to take immediate action to build closer relationships with customers, suppliers and banks and make EMU an opportunity, not a threat.



John Kilby said banks should help firms to make the euro transition

Jaguar takes the driving seat to save energy costs

By BRIAN COLLETT

SMALL manufacturers supplying Jaguar in Coventry are saving on energy and other costs under an environmental project introduced by the car company.

matched by finance and consultancy from Jaguar and management time from participating businesses.

Federation urges fresh rate cut

A FURTHER half-point cut in interest rates is needed, according to the Federation of Small Businesses in the light of a survey painting a gloomy picture of the economy (Rodney Hobson writes).

Bureau matches buyers with sellers

BUSINESS people aiming to buy companies are being matched with owners wishing to sell by a newly formed commercial marriage bureau (Brian Collett writes).

Jonathan Hick, one of the founders of the MBI Register, discovered that potential buyers did not want their existing employers to know their intentions, and that owners seeking to sell did not want their employees to find out and were uncertain how to dispose of a company.

Mr Hick, who has a marketing background and once bought into an advertising business, is the chief executive, based in Leeds, and Ian

Edward, a banker, runs the London office. The non-executive chairman is Michael Frank, a former merchant banker.



"I hear that this year's guest speaker is from the Samaritans"

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Makes the seat to 'gy costs

Finance and management... participating businesses...

Federation urges fresh rate cut

FURTHER half-point cut in interest rates is needed, according to the Federation of Small Businesses in the light of a survey painting a gloomy picture of the economy...

FAX: 0171 782 7827

Cowboy advisers take money and run

By RODNEY HOBSON A TEAM of grant cowboys has been rounding up hundreds of pounds from companies in East London... Business Link London City Partners fears...

Swanky progression leads to crowning achievements

Tiaras help two niche jewellers to get ahead creatively, writes Bernard Silk



Michelle Morgan, left, and Vivienne Ridley say tiaras are popular with brides-to-be and nightclubbers

When they met on a Sheffield Polytechnic degree course, Michelle Morgan and Vivienne Ridley did not expect that they would one day be running a thriving business — selling tiaras...

power jewellery, which sold quite well in high street shops, but we couldn't compete with import prices... After spotting tiaras being used as accessories in a fashion magazine, the women decided to produce their own...

Swanky tiaras in fashion shows, a valuable source of publicity — and sales. Projected turnover for this financial year is £75,000. "Tiaras are a niche market — there's a lot of competition, so you must have something special and a bit different," said Miss Morgan.

"Our tiaras have simple, contemporary lines which are updated regularly. This year we have used a range of different materials including crystals, feathers and multi-coloured beads... The two women will soon have a Web page on the Internet, so that potential customers can have access to pictures of their products..."

By RODNEY HOBSON THE number of small business closures continued to fall in the third quarter in spite of the slowdown in economic growth... Barclays Bank figures show...

Reduction in closures among smaller firms

growth in the economy, it is likely that the full impact may not be felt by small businesses until next year... "While we are seeing a slowdown in

Price discounting in the face of intense competition remains rife and is depressing profits... Canceled orders remained at a high level and firms reduced inventories of raw materials...

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Computers & Computing Services - "A Little Scorcher" PC advertisement featuring Intel Celeron processor, 333MHz, 64MB SDRAM, 6.4Gb Hard disk, and various software bundles.

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# Hunt is on for the star with a modest price



Celestine Babayaro pops up at the far post to nod in Chelsea's equaliser against West Ham. The defender now has 12 points, the ninth best total for full backs

A glance at the five faces below could be revealing for the would-be Fantasy league manager who may be considering entering a team for the first time, with the possibility of taking a weekly or monthly prize—even at this stage of the season, it is not too late to enter a team with a chance of winning £500 for the best team of the week, or, better still, the £1,000 prize for the month's top team.

When putting together 11 players to take on the rest of the Fantasy world, with £50 million burning a hole in your fantasy pocket, the temptation is, naturally, to select the biggest names: Michael Owen; Alan Shearer; Dennis Bergkamp; Dwight Yorke. This week, those four megastars, apart from being arguably the top goalscoring talents in the FA Cup Premier League, had another thing in common: they scored absolutely no points at all in *The Times Fantasy League*.

They were not alone. Marc Overmars, nothing; Gianfranco

Zola, nada; David Beckham, zip. Over the season, the law of averages, not to mention the tendency of cream to rise to the top, will probably determine that these quality performers are among the top points scorers; but, in any given week, lesser-



side Clive Mendonca. When Mendonca scored a hat-trick in the club's first home game of the season, it seemed to confirm that Hunt would find himself overshadowed. However, it does not seem to have worked out quite like that. Hunt's two goals against Tottenham at White Hart Lane last Monday evening brought his Fantasy League total up to 14, six ahead of Mendonca, who is in the middle of a goal drought. More to the point, in weekly terms, Hunt, available to Fantasy League managers for a million pounds less, outscored his partner by six points to none over the past seven days.

The five top performers pictured below contain a mixture of two full internationals, two up-and-coming stars of the future, and Hunt—the type of journeyman professional who can make all the difference between first place and nowhere to a Fantasy League team. Over-look them at your peril.

Helpdesk: 01582 702720.



Seaman: leading scorer among goalkeepers

Babayaro: 20 points for the Everton full back

Ehiogu: the top fantasy centre back with 19

Le Tissier: leading midfielder with 14

Hunt: six points this week for Charlton striker

## HOW TO ENTER YOUR FANTASY LEAGUE TEAM

Select a team of 11 Premiership players from those listed right. The total value of your team must not exceed £50m and you cannot choose more than one player from the same Premiership club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation with: one goalkeeper; two full-backs; two centre-backs; four midfielders; and two forwards.

sure the total does not exceed £50m. Send your entry to the address shown, with a cheque/PO for £2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or RoI) or your credit-card details. You will get confirmation of your team and your personal identity number (PIN) on receipt of your entry form. Readers under 18 should seek parental permission before entering. They must state their date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our Youth League.

phone and when prompted tap in your 11 three-digit player codes. You will be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 18 characters). You will then be given a 10-digit PIN, make sure you write this down and keep it safe to be able to check your team's progress and make transfers. Calls last about seven minutes. 0640 calls are 60p per minute. Calls from outside the UK are charged at national rates. Calls from payphones cost approximately double.

THE TIMES MAIN FANTASY LEAGUE ENTRY FORM. Includes fields for FANTASY TEAM NAME, LUCKY DIP, player selection table with columns for CODE, NAME, CLUB, and VALUE, and a section for payment and contact details.

## CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE

Table listing player statistics for various positions: GOALKEEPERS, FULL BACKS, MIDFIELDERS, and FORWARDS. Columns include player name, club, and weekly points.

Advertisement for Gascoig Fantasy League. Features the Gascoig logo, a cartoon character, and promotional text including 'fantasy league' and 'FANTASY QUIZ'. Includes contact information for a faxback service.

كندا من الأصل



# Gascoigne looking fit for success

### The (former?) England midfielder made a useful contribution to this week's winning team, Nick Szczepanik reports

**G**azza is back. Not that he ever left the sports pages, of course — but his display in Middlesbrough's 3-3 draw at Southampton, six days after he won the man-of-the-match award for his performance in Boro's draw with Nottingham Forest, suggests that the (former?) England midfielder player is well on the way to recovering his best form.



WEEKLY WINNER

His goal at The Dell, a perfectly-placed free-kick which curled beyond Paul Jones's left-hand post before swerving back inside, was reminiscent of the dead-ball accuracy of Gascoigne in his Tottenham heyday. Moreover, it was his forward ball that the unfortunate Claus Lundekvam headed past his own goalkeeper to earn a two-point assist (in addition to the three points for his goal) for those lucky enough to have the Geordie in their selections.

Apart from his contributions to the score, a leaner, finer-looking player than the rotund figure of recent months helped his team overcome the loss of first Robbie Mustoe and then Phil Stamp as the referee, Paul Alcock, brandished two red cards.

Gascoigne was also one of the main contributors to the team chosen by the winner of this week's £500 prize, Raj Basi of Southall, Middlesex, who works at Heathrow Airport for British Midland Airways; however, it is another international midfielder player with a colourful recent past who is the inspiration behind the side.

The team, Ince Is King, is named after Mr Basi's favourite player, but, strangely enough, the Liverpool captain does not appear in the eleven. The reason is simple — that suspension is likely to rule Ince out of too many games. "I'm a big fan, but he's very temperamental," Mr Basi said. "He's always been my favourite player. I like his gusto, but not his ability to pick up cards."

Like a lot of supporters of West Ham, Mr Basi went off Ince somewhat when he left Upton Park for Old Trafford, but was delighted when the player returned to England after his spell in Milan with Internazionale to join Liverpool, the team to which Mr Basi, influenced by his brother, a supporter of the Reds, had transferred his allegiance. "When he came back to Liverpool, that was it."

With the self-styled Guv'nor out of contention for a place in Mr Basi's Fantasy League side, the Liverpool representative in the Ince Is King team is Steve McManaman, who weighed in with two points on Saturday, but Paolo Wanchope, who scored for Derby at Anfield, got three: an ever-present

dilemma for Fantasy League managers whose players are regularly in opposition. "It's a two-way thing: you're hoping for your attackers to score and your defenders not to get picked. That was a reason for picking Gilles Grimandi — he usually only plays in the easier fixtures." On Sunday, however, Grimandi helped Arsenal keep a clean sheet against Everton, thereby earning three more points, a total equalled by Steve Guppy of Leicester City and Gary Neville of Manchester United, two players who helped to ensure blank sheets at The Valley and Old Trafford over the weekend.

Five points each from Darren Anderson and Egil Ostenstad, attacking players he has always rated, helped the total towards 31 points, enough to claim the prize of £500 cash and £100 worth of sports equipment. Then, of course, there was Gascoigne, a player of extremes, as Mr Basi agreed. "He's going to go one way or the other. When he came back at Southampton on Saturday, I thought: 'Good on you.'" Plenty of those who are looking forward to a fully recovered Gascoigne providing sorely needed inspiration for England will have thought the same.

## FANTASY PLAYER OF THE WEEK



My name is Paul, and I am a footballer. Gascoigne's visits to The Priory clinic for treatment for alcoholism have, so far, succeeded to the extent that it is now possible to think of him once again as a superbly gifted footballer rather than Gazza, tabloid casualty. Long may the renaissance continue

## FANTASY LEAGUE TOP 100

1	These Ext Beams	Nicholas Keighley	135
2	Hermaphrodites	Michael Langdon	130
3	Headstart Times	Colin Head	127
4	The Mean Team	Alan Harding	126
5	Real Kickers	Richard Michael Fearn	125
6	Football Fanatics	Tracey Young	125
7	Waynes Wanderers	Wayne Faulconbridge	125
8	Promo Flick	Richard Verrison	125
9	Robert's Rovers	Robert Anderson	124
10	Guy's Stars	Graham Adamson	124
11	Malton	Malcolm McFarlin	124
12	Shabadi United	Phil Clarke	124
13	Bozza's Boys	Jonathan Beswick	122
14	Strike Force	Laura Cogan	122
15	Football Footsie	Christina Perret	121
16	Nash's Champs	Nathan Carroll	120
17	Just A Second FC	David Walker	119
18	Albert Athletic	Nick Dean	119
19	Sillycones	James Begley	119
20	North's	Anthony McFarlin	119
21	Hillbillys Utd 3	Chris Hill	119
22	Ideal Toffermen	Matthew Hewitt	118
23	Managed By Faldo	Don Fairley	118
24	Poetry Bluebirds	Geraint Jones	118
25	Serious Squad	James Kerr	118
26	Nigel's Team	Rigel Byrne	118
27	Oak Bush Cricket	Alan Cooke	117
28	Biggles XI	Ben Meehan	117
29	Rougham Rangers	Kenneth Smalley	117
30	La Communiolo 2	Trevor Reader	117
31	Solid At The Back	John Lofthouse	117
32	Suzanne's Squad	Stuart Lewis	117
33	Wb 6	Glen Reynolds	117
34	Sancho's Villa	Niall Barker	117
35	Dynamo Greenbay	James Glover	117
36	Edmo Utd Mington	David Edmondson	116
37	Wellfare Wanderers	Nicholas Wilson	116
38	Wot No Owen FC	Graeme Jones	116
39	Playidians	Rada Carroll	116
40	The Monkey Boys	Michael La	116
41	Bush Reds	Simon Thompson	116
42	Vin's Magicians	Malcolm Angus	116
43	The Times Eleven	Simon Jones	116
44	Grampus Gunners	Marion White	116
45	Cyclones	Ron Allport	115
46	Armchair Utd	Susan Howatt	115
47	Playboys	Roger Lisle	115
48	Men In Suits	Tim Manning	115
49	Botany Bay XI	Stephen Brooks	115
50	Theatable Toppers	Ian Welch	115
51	Guy's United	James Jones	115
52	Tigons Argyle	James Walsh	115
53	Hemby Reserves	Duncan Clark	115
54	In The City	David Mead	115
55	Nairoti Six	Tony Gammage	115
56	Best Served Cold	Purson Purson	115
57	Ridgewood Rovers	Martin Lowe	115
58	Robin's Raiders	Robin Playdon	115
59	Revolution 2	Marian Knappman	115
60	No name	W Edward	114
61	Pagal Alabasterians	S B Hussain	114
62	Reovers United	Sally Reeves	114
63	Wolf Pack 11	Christopher Cox	114
64	Smilgyanancers	Rosemary Gunn	114
65	Bazzas Boys	Barry Carroll	114
66	Jonesofxenden	Ian Jones	114
67	Cose Brothers	Sean Eastwood	114
68	Seward City	Steve Clifton	114
69	Five Star Fish	David Harrison	114
70	Independents	Steve Coombs	114
71	Nairoti Two	Tony Gammage	114
72	Loon Rollers	Alan Garden	114
73	Abbey Spurs	Paul Dowling	114
74	Manchester Who?	Tim Gardner	114
75	Holyump Yaglor	Mike Hawke	114
76	Spartak Moscow	L Samuels	114
77	Larlandpaysam	Alan Featherstone	113
78	Dixie's Deans FC	Brian Highdale	113
79	Tom Liss	Damian Olanjanian	113
80	Times For A Win	Chris Steward	113
81	Home Park XI	Kevin Banting	113
82	The Bears FC	Tom Lee	113
83	Clapper Chimps	Mark Ashdown	113
84	Don 5	Don Shuttle	113
85	Philsofothealers	Philip Shiels	113
86	Pin-Ups 7	Phil Tusher	113
87	D H D Roma	David Brown	113
88	Throw In Blazes	Miles Lawson	113
89	Blazons Geozors	Stephen Sinclair	113
90	Liver N Onions	Chris Bowerman	113
91	Art Mega Done 98	Donald McLeod	113
92	Ultra Deep 64K	Mark Montgomery	113
93	Koddy And Kollie	Anthony McMaster	113
94	Kandy City	David Gunstrom	113
95	Sexy Swotoland	Brian McGowan	113
96	Jessica's Jollies	Jessica Jones	113
97	Rough And Smooth	Steve Martin	112
98	Oggy Oggy	Steve Boske	112
99	No name	No name	112
100	Feelingham Town	Martin Stewart	112

Plus 28 other players on 112 points.

## FANTASY QUIZ

Last week's poser was easy if you knew your Italians (Materazzi, Tramezzani) and, in double measure, your Leicester midfield (Muzzy Tizzard, pictured twice). And double Z was the distinguishing feature in each name, of course.

What do this week's foursome have in common? Again, easy if you know it.

### PRIZES

£500 to the manager of the Fantasy League team with the most points at the end of the season. Plus a trip for two to the European Cup final.

£50,000 to the runner-up.

£25,000 for third place.

£2,000 monthly prizes: eight prizes of £1,000, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment, will be awarded to the managers whose teams score the most points in a particular month.

£500 weekly prizes: 36 prizes.

### FANTASY LEAGUE FAXBACK SERVICE

To receive a comprehensive breakdown of your team's performance use our unique faxback service. The service will be updated by noon every Tuesday.

- Make sure you have your 10-digit PIN to hand when you call.
- Pick up the handset of your fax machine (if you do not have a handset then press the on-hook or telephone button instead) and dial 0991 123 720 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4280).
- Listen carefully to the instructions and press the appropriate buttons when asked.
- If you have any problems using this service call 0171-412 3795.

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Calls cost £1 per minute (ex-UK numbers charged at national rates)

## As I was saying . . .

A weekend of two halves, so to speak.

Are you referring to the strange split of fixtures over two days? I certainly am. As you know, I have two Fantasy League teams... Both equally unsuccessful... That may be about to change — but, as I was saying, two teams with a total of twenty different players...

Twenty? Playing a man short in each side, are you? That's confidence, I must say. Or have you got one team of nine, rather like Middlesbrough at Southampton on Saturday? No, twenty different players. There are two players who appear in both my teams.

Okay, I'm with you. Anyway, I sat down on Saturday evening and worked out all the scores of my players who'd been in action that day, but almost half had yet to play. So on Sunday, I had a load more scores to work out. Yes, why were there four Premiership matches on Sunday? Surely pay-per-view hasn't come in yet, has it?

Well, three of the games included teams who had been in action in Europe in midweek, so I suppose their players were a bit tired. Although Manchester United

straight at you without dropping them. Just ask David James. That's a bit unfair too. You couldn't blame James for either of Derby's goals in their win at Anfield. Have you got any Derby players, by the way?

None who were in action this week, unfortunately. Stefan Schnoor wasn't playing. But otherwise the weekend was quite successful for my squad.

Throw some names at me, flic, the other keeper, clean sheet against Leicester after letting in two last Monday; Huckerby and Hasselbaink, goals against Blackburn and Sheffield Wednesday; a nice assist for Michael Hughes of Wimbledon against Nottingham Forest. And Babayaro, your cause célèbre of last season, got Chelsea's goal at West Ham.

That was last season, unfortunately. I haven't picked him this time.

We all make mistakes. But do all these successes mean that you are looking at a weekly prize? I don't think so. The good performances were spread too evenly over my two teams. A squad of two halves, in other words. I'm afraid so.

### CHECK YOUR SCORES

TELEPHONE 0640 62 51 02

### YOUTH LEAGUE LEADERBOARD

The top ten of the under-18s.

1	The Mean Team	Adam Harding	126
2	Robert's Rovers	Robert Anderson	124
3	Hillbillys Utd 3	Chris Hill	119
4	Liver N Onions	Chris Bowerman	113
5	Goscor United	Richard Low	112
6	Motor Skill City	Jack Thomlike	112
7	Is It All Over?	Tom Cameron	112
8	Dream Team	Andrew Murray Jones	111
9	Adams Of The South	Adam Duffell	111
10	Hillbillys Utd 1	Chris Hill	111

Wanchope: useful purchase, plus a goal at Anfield

## Importance of striking before the iron's hot

MANAGERS in *The Times* Fantasy League have short-term memories when it comes to purchasing strikers.

The demand for Hamilton Ricard of Middlesbrough, for example, has become massive over the last few weeks, but you can't help thinking that such managers have missed the boat and that the signing should have been completed some weeks ago.

With the vast majority of strikers, goals tend to come in streaks. A run of five goals in five games is often swiftly followed by six games without a goal. The aforementioned Ricard may already have hit eight goals this season, but his hot streak could well be over and he may thus end the season as the fifty point player that we all know he is. Besides, it was only a few months ago that he was classed in the donkey category.

The secret of a top Fantasy League manager is anticipation — this is the difference between the best and the rest. It's fair enough spotting a striker mid-way through a scoring streak, but it's far more rewarding to buy a striker before such a goalscoring flurry.

For example, Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink went into Sunday's game in the worst run of his Leeds career with eight games without a goal. With a player so reliant on confidence, the goal against Sheffield Wednesday could bring about an impressive return to points-scoring form for the Dutchman.

Arsenal's Nicolas Anelka is another striker whose confidence is critical to his performance. Five goals in five games is certainly an impressive tally, but once this run comes to an end, it could be a while before he gets another.

There are certain strikers whom you stick with through thick or thin, or forget about completely — Aston Villa's Stan Collymore certainly comes into this category. Stan the Man often suffers from a case of the Collywobbles, but frequently returns to haunt doubters with a brace after no advance warning.

Then we come to the "bread-and-butter" strikers — the players on whom you can rely for forty or fifty points. Dion Dublin's move to Aston Villa can only enhance his steady Fantasy League form of previous years; big Duncan Ferguson of Everton is another certainty for 12 goals a season; and Emile Heskey of Leicester City is a banker for the 40 point mark. You can chuck these guys in at the deep end, knowing exactly how they'll perform during the course of the season.

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MATT SIMS

Labour crisis on Welsh candidate

The Labour leadership was facing a growing crisis last night after failing in its latest attempt to force Rhodri Morgan, the "old Labour" candidate to be the First Secretary of the Welsh assembly, to stand down.

There were fears of party civil war in Wales as Mr Morgan insisted that he would not step aside, although attempts continue to stop him becoming Labour's candidate..... Page 1

Starving Russia poses security threat

Russia is on the brink of severe food shortages that could pose a security threat to the West, intelligence sources have concluded. The growing fears confirm Moscow's predictions that supplies could run out in weeks. The European Commission has proposed an emergency package of food aid worth £285 million to stave off starvation..... Page 1

Cheap monarchy out

In his clearest vision yet of how he sees the future of the monarchy, Prince Charles dismisses the idea that Britain should copy the slimmed down, cheaper, Scandinavian model..... Page 1

MP will not complain

Nick Brown last night acted to bring a speedy end to the controversy over his "outing" as a homosexual by ruling out any complaint about his treatment by the press..... Page 1

Hotel opening plan

Round the clock drinking in pubs and clubs at New Year's Eve would be introduced from the millennium under government proposals announced yesterday..... Page 1

Surrey's troubles

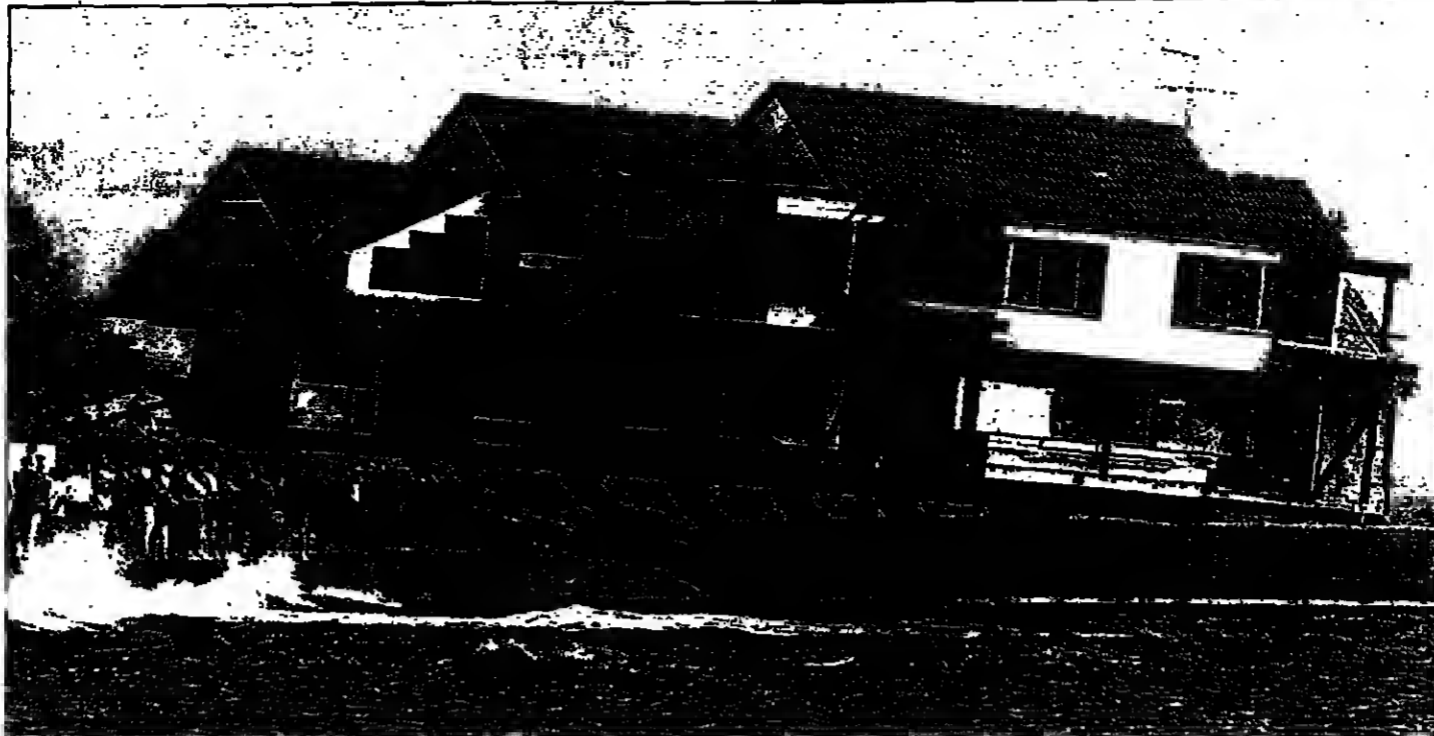
A bishop drew aside the lace curtains of his affluent, middle-class diocese yesterday to reveal wife-beaters, drug addicts and suicidal executives. The Right Rev John Gladwin, Bishop of Guildford, said that the facade of wealth and prosperity in Surrey hid growing problems..... Page 3

Violence in the home

Children whose fathers are violent towards them or their mothers are being encouraged to report them to advisers on such problems, or to teachers. Government advertisements will be televised in Scotland over the Christmas period..... Page 6

Renovators tunnel out of trouble

A couple who ran into problems when they decided to extend their stone cottage—because a 3ft-wide public right of way ran alongside it—have found an unusual solution. Arthur Baker has provided ramblers with a far-from-scenic alternative route by building a 40ft-long and 10ft-high tunnel under the cottage in Wetley Rock, in the Staffordshire moorlands..... Page 8



Home delivery: a £300,000 house is backed onto a barge to be transported to a seaside location near Auckland, New Zealand

BP jobs boost

BP is to create almost 3,500 jobs with a £500 million investment in its chemicals operations at Grangemouth in Scotland and at Hull..... Page 27

High street sales

Retailers will today report a fall in sales in October, only the second monthly fall since March 1995..... Page 27

BA profits fall

British Airways suffered a fall in half-year profits to £38 million from £43 million, affected by a downturn in consumer confidence. The airline proposes to fly smaller planes on many routes next year..... Page 27

Maritime: The FTSE 100 fell

The FTSE 100 fell 57.1 to 5433.9. The pound fell 34 cents to \$1.6594 but rose 3.62 pence to DM2.7999. The sterling index rose to 100.7 from 99.5..... Page 30

Football: Pierluigi Casiraghi

of Chelsea, will undergo exploratory surgery after suffering a serious leg injury in a collision with West Ham's Shaika Hislop..... Page 52

Crisis: Deadlines came and went

as talks continued to try to resolve the dispute between West Indies players and their board over the South Africa tour..... Page 52

Rugby union: Lawrence Dallaglio

the England captain, was ruled out of the World Cup qualifying match against Holland by a knee injury. Martin Johnson will now lead the side..... Page 52

Athletics: The Puma Edinburgh

Marathon, which will take place for the first time next year over a fast, flat course, will have a target of 5,000 entries..... Page 49

Tricycle power

Stars including Emma Thompson, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Tom Hanks are helping to relaunch Kilburn's Tricycle Theatre..... Page 36

Paris shows

Richard Cork joins the queues for the hottest visual arts exhibitions in the French capital, starting with Van Gogh at the Musée d'Orsay..... Page 37

Open house

Richmond's Orange Tree Theatre, revives Terrence McNally's absorbing 1990 play Lips Together, Teeth Apart, set in Long Island..... Page 38

Musical mho

How Percy Grainger filled an entire weekend at St John's Smith Square, while Kent Nagano and the Hallé Orchestra filled the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester..... Page 38

Parent pressure

For a parent to talk about parenting is dangerous, because parenting is even more of an uncharted minefield than that of sexual mores. Dr Thomas Stuttaford introduces the second part of a series..... Page 16

Berlin's life

Sir Isaiah Berlin refused to write an autobiography. But he agreed to talk about his past to Michael Ignatieff and from this has come the first full, authorised biography. In this extract the philosopher tells of the encounter that mattered to him more than any other..... Page 17

Small business

The crowning glory of the tiara makers who began in the kitchen..... Pages 22, 23

Exploited

Should workers exploited abroad be allowed to seek damages in their employer's home country?..... Page 39

With food stocks dangerously diminished

by a disastrous harvest and the economy still reeling, Russia is headed into a winter of deprivation and discontent. The crucial question is whether Russians will stoically endure another season of hardship, as they have so many times before, or strike out in anger against the political order..... Page 18

Public interest in sexuality of MPs

BBC justifies Mandelson edict: house sellers and home surveys; Budget proposals for share-ownership schemes; "healthy" chocolate; the English and queers..... Page 19

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

HOMES People & Property: Selling your house? Soon you'll have to keep a log book for future owners

INTERFACE Intelligent stadiums: technology transforms the mega venue

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,945

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-27.

- ACROSS 1 Bargain King Richard put up front (6) 4 One thus in charge covering staff division under constant pressure (8) 10 Top chef in English officers' mess (9) 11 Quarters provided by a jolly host (5) 12 Memorise line and get ready (5) 13 Operating times in test of shock treatment (9) 14 Carriage for rest of the passengers (8,3) 16 Monarch abandoning seed pearl, for example (3) 18 Unfortunate expulsion of odd characters from islands (3) 20 Youngsters making fuss—not so much to pocket money (11) 22 We beg to differ, taking points to mediator (2-7) 23 Bookmaker's account accepted by that fellow backing (3) 24 Changes of direction taking toll, reportedly (5) 25 One in isolation has to divulge information repeatedly (9) 26 Flano playing first is appealing (8) 27 It sounds like the fat of the land (6) DOWN 1 Fighters putting end to quarrel in fitting arena (9) 2 Providing familiar friend with sound support could be a feather in one's cap (7) 3 Some self-indulgence of a little imp (5) 5 Bound by conservative tendency in annual purification ritual? (6-8) 6 See old penalty reduced after mistake (9) 7 Lifting a bit of corn in combine (7) 8 Desert transport arrived and left (5) 9 Be persuaded by powerful speaker with a line so movingly put across (6,2,6) 15 Expert around court applauded (7) 17 Motorway's hazard producing accident (9) 19 Disaster as vehicle taken over by new driver goes into river (7) 21 What man may wear for deadly sort of American party (7) 22 Prepare for riding habit (3-2) 23 Runner—one obviously pleased if given second start (5)

Solution to Puzzle No 20,944 with filled crossword grid.

Latest Road and Weather conditions

Table with road and weather conditions for various regions like UK, Ireland, and Channel Islands.

World City Weather

Table with world city weather for cities like London, New York, Tokyo, etc.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 46.0% of the total content for UK newspapers in 1997

QUICK CLUE NO 1

Local hero, pictured right, who risks life without reward (9).

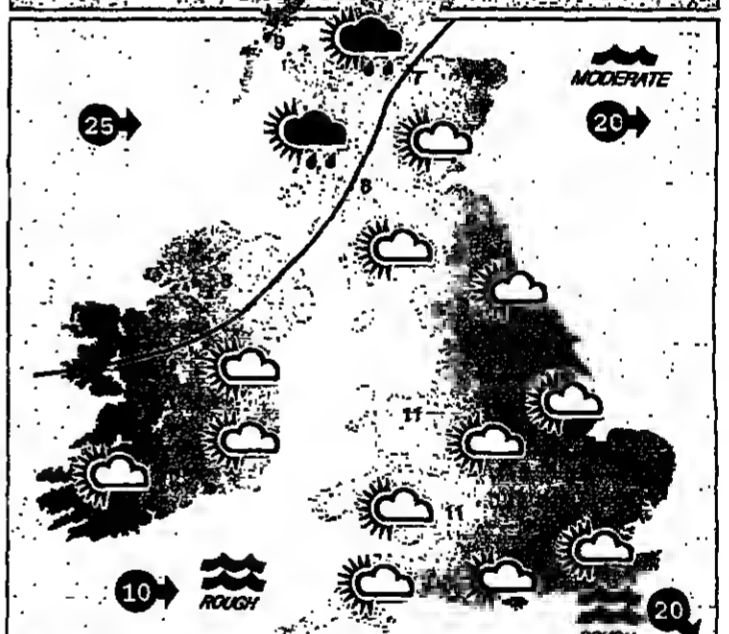
General: dry and fresh with longish spells of sunshine

General: dry and fresh with longish spells of sunshine. Rain clearing southeast England during the morning. Showers in NW England, western Wales, Northern Ireland and eastern Scotland. Western Scotland very windy with showers, heavy at times. In a few parts, especially the North, rain in a few parts, especially the North.

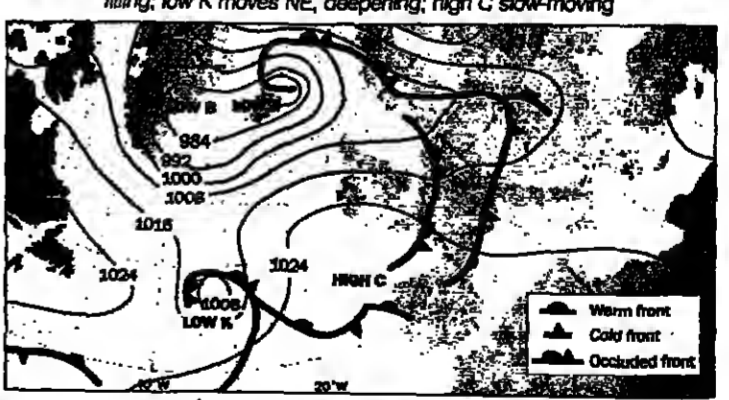
24 hrs to 5 pm

Table with 24-hour weather forecast for various cities.

MOON TODAY



CHANGES TO THE CHART BELOW FROM NOON



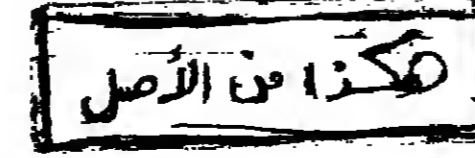
HIGH TIDES

Table with high tide times for various locations.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Table with highest and lowest temperatures for various locations.

Large advertisement on the right side of the page, including 'PLUS: SUN'S CHALLENGE TO MICROSOFT' and 'Merrill leave floor with F1'.



# THE TIMES

# 2

INSIDE SECTION  
**2**  
TODAY



**ECONOMICS**  
Anatole Kaletsky on why the financial crisis ended so soon  
PAGE 31



**ARTS**  
Why the stars had a whipround for Nicholas Kent  
PAGES 36-38



**LAW**  
How Cherie and friends took UK law to China  
PAGES 39-41

**TELEVISION AND RADIO**  
Pages 50, 51

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10 1998

## BP creates 3,500 chemicals jobs

By Christine Buckley  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

### Boost to Scotland and the North East from £500m investment

BRITISH PETROLEUM is to create nearly 3,500 jobs with a £500 million investment in its chemicals business.

The jobs, which will be largely in construction, will go to Grangemouth, in Central Scotland, and Hull. BP is to build two new chemical production plants at the two sites, creating 225 permanent jobs when the plants are opened in 2002.

The substantial development follows a steady erosion of jobs in the North East and Scotland over the past few

months. The regions have suffered problems with key inward investment projects and have seen a series of cutbacks in manufacturing.

Sir John Browne, chief executive of BP, said: "This is an important step in the development of our European chemicals business.

"The North East is an excellent location for manufacturing petrochemicals. This investment will help BP Chemicals to retain and improve its competitive position in the European market."

Ken Jackson, the general secretary of the AEEU, said that the development would mean a "massive boost" to the economy.

He said: "Scotland has been hit particularly hard in recent weeks, but this will increase confidence and attract further investment. We look forward to working with the company to maximise the investment they have made."

Lord Macdonald, Scottish Business and Industry Minister, said: "Building on the success of earlier initiatives, it

should secure Grangemouth's position as one of the top petrochemical sites in Europe. BP is a major player in the Scottish economy and this investment, together with the associated new employment, is excellent news not only for Grangemouth but also for Scotland."

BP's new plants will create 2,200 construction jobs in Grangemouth and 900 in Hull. The developments will include extending BP's pipelines from Tossidae in Hull and have been triggered by the company's expectations

that raw material supplies from the North Sea will increase from 2000. It expects to increase the amounts of liquid gas feedstocks from the North Sea.

However, BP is also to cut 150 jobs early in the next century with the closure of a plant at Baglan Bay, South Wales.

Baglan Bay produces ethylene, which is required by BP's Hull plant, but that need is declining. Production of the chemical will be taken over by Grangemouth.

The move is part of a drive

begun by BP in 1990 to increase the competitiveness of its European chemicals operation. It has since sold or closed a string of chemicals businesses. It has also invested more than £1 billion in its integrated oil, gas and petrochemicals centre at Grangemouth.

Grangemouth's ethylene facility was chosen for increased development because it was next to the company's refinery and the terminal of its Forties field pipeline system. Hull has a pipeline link to North Sea

methane. BP also said that government approval for a combined heat and power plant at Grangemouth was critical to the development plans. It won permission to build the power plant, which will generate low-cost electricity, earlier this year.

The boost to the chemicals operation is expected to increase BP's earnings through lower costs in production and logistics.

Bryan Sanderson, chief executive of BP Chemicals, said: "This package of advanced investments will yield enormous value for BP - it will increase mid-cycle earnings by £5 million per annum."

### BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET	
INDICES	
FTSE 100	5433.9 (-57.1)
FTSE All Share	2,896.4 (-21.41)
Nikkei	14194.54 (-27.57)
New York	
Dow Jones	8977.83 (-97.88)
S&P Composite	1126.95 (-14.06)
US RATE	
Federal Funds	4.75% (4.75%)
Long bond	5.30% (5.30%)
Yield	5.32% (5.32%)
LONDON MONEY	
3-month interbank	6% (6%)
Libor (Dec)	114.29 (113.63)
STERLING	
New York	
\$	1.6590* (1.6603)
DM	1.6595 (1.6626)
DM	2.8003 (2.7827)
FF	1.2688* (1.2763)
SP	2.3141 (2.2731)
Yen	201.29 (196.70)
S Index	100.7 (99.5)
DOLLAR	
London	
DM	1.6595* (1.6726)
FF	1.2688* (1.2763)
Yen	121.56* (119.10)
S Index	106.6 (105.0)
Tokyo close Yen	119.41
NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent 15-day (Jan)	\$12.55 (\$12.75)
GOLD	
London close	\$292.45 (\$293.95)

\* denotes midday trading prices

## High street sales fall raises fresh fear of recession

By Fraser Nelson and Janet Bush

HIGH street sales fell last month for only the second time since March 1995, raising new fears of a sharp deterioration in consumer confidence in the autumn.

Figures from the British Retail Consortium, published today, show that retail sales fell 0.6 per cent last month.

The BRC figures show that the downturn has stretched across every retail sector in October, with ladies' clothing faring worst.

The decline, it says, was caused by many shops putting on sales throughout the month in an attempt to lure cautious shoppers to spend money. Miserable weather was also blamed.

Bridget Rosewell, chief economic adviser to the BRC, said: "These results show that the half-point cut in interest rates announced last Thursday was well timed. The trend is still firmly downwards and will need to be reversed shortly if the economy is to keep growing."

Last week Marks & Spencer, Britain's biggest retailer, described the high street conditions as a "bloodbath" as it announced a fall in half-year profits. Boots also gave a subdued statement on current trading last week.

The BRC said the three-month growth trend slowed to 0.6 per cent - less than half the rate recorded in September.

The City said that the BRC report, together with figures yesterday showing weaker than expected costs and prices

years in October. Output prices fell 0.2 per cent in October, giving a 0.1 per cent year-on-year rise. This was the lowest rate since March 1960.

Input prices, paid for raw materials, fell 0.2 per cent to stand 9.8 per cent lower compared with a year ago.

Yesterday Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of Exchequer, faced questions from the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee on the growth and borrowing forecasts contained in last week's pre-Budget report.

Mr Brown was unapologetic about his forecasts that Britain will avoid recession next year and recover to healthy growth in 2000 and 2001. He cited the fact that sterling had weakened by 10 per cent from its peak and also the fact that European export markets, accounting for 50 per cent of British trade, would be growing healthily.

On borrowing, he re-emphasised that his forecasts were based on a cautious assessment of tax revenues. He said that, unlike the previous Government, the Treasury was not factoring in revenues from privatisations that had not yet happened, nor savings on fraud that had not yet been achieved.



Chocks away: Robert Ayling said BA was on course for savings of £1 billion a year by 2000

## Merrill leaves trading floor with Fleet deal

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

MERRILL LYNCH, the biggest brokerage on Wall Street, is giving up its physical presence on the New York Stock Exchange.

Its Merrill Lynch Specialists Inc subsidiary will be sold to Fleet Financial Group for up to \$200 million (£120 million).

Merrill's equity trading powerhouse will not be damaged by the move, which is seen as symptomatic of the growing irrelevance of open-outcry exchanges to the financial system. The deal will make Fleet's

JJC Specialists the second-biggest pool of trading personnel on the exchange floor. Of the large Wall Street houses, Merrill has one of the biggest operations on the world's biggest stock exchange.

Exchange specialists execute orders from brokers and trade on their own accounts in vast pits surrounded by monitors. Merrill employed 62 specialists.

The company said that the disposal had nothing to do with its recent announcement

of 3,400 job losses. Merrill lost \$164 million in the last quarter, the first loss since 1989.

Earlier this year, the exchange floor was shaken by a scandal that undermined confidence in brokers' independence. Floor personnel allegedly operated a racket that let them buy shares on their own account ahead of big orders coming. Prosecutors have brought charges against a few brokers, but none at Merrill.

Wall Street toll, page 32

## BA plans take flight after results disappoint

By Adam Jones

BRITISH AIRWAYS is to fly smaller aircraft than planned on many routes next year to reduce its vulnerability to an economic slowdown.

Amid anxiety about declining demand for business and first class tickets, BA also said it is unable to meet demand from "premium" passengers on popular services such as Johannesburg to London.

BA had wanted to increase seat capacity by 8 per cent next year. It has cut this to 2 per cent. Asian routes, includ-

ing Osaka, Seoul and Jakarta, are among the casualties.

The cut will mainly be achieved by replacing ageing Boeing 747s with smaller 777s. Cabins will be reconfigured to offer more business and first class seating.

BA was announcing interim results that disappointed the City. It made profits of £385 million before tax for the six months to September 30, compared with £430 million. Analysts had expected between £375 million and £425 million.

Sales rose 6 per cent to £4.7 billion. Robert Ayling, chief executive, said BA is on course to realise planned savings of £1 billion a year by 2000.

He refused to give further details of its Oneworld alliance, which dominates BA's short-term global strategy after regulatory objections bogged down a partnership with American Airlines. The interim dividend is 5.1p a share, up 8 per cent.

Tempus, page 30

## Halifax denies merger talks

By Marianne Curphey and Caroline Merrell

A MERGER between Halifax and Barclays would be unlikely to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission as the combined share of new lending would be less than 23 per cent, it emerged yesterday.

Halifax continued to play down recent speculation linking the former building society to Barclays, Prudential or NatWest. It claimed its continuing share buyback programme was evidence that it was not currently in merger talks.

However, a Halifax spokesman said yesterday that it had

made no secret of the fact that it had a £3 billion war chest to spend on acquisitions, adding: "Everyone is talking to everyone else all the time."

A merger between Halifax and Barclays would be a chance for Halifax to diversify with new income streams to offset competitive pressure in its core business of mortgage lending. Analysts calculate that management would be able to take 8 to 10 per cent out of the cost of the combined company through branch closures and rationalisation of IT.

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# MAM looks at hedge fund

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

MERCURY Asset Management is considering launching a hedge fund in an effort to bolster its faltering reputation as a pension fund manager.

MAM, the UK's largest pension fund manager, is thought to have been prompted by Merrill Lynch, the US investment bank which bought MAM earlier this year and which is a big supporter of hedge funds, including the controversial Long Term Capital Management.

Undeterred by the near-collapse of LTCM during the recent stock market collapse, MAM is continuing to "evaluate client demand" for a new hedge fund, although a spokesman emphasised that plans were at an early stage.

The new fund would be run on a "total return" basis. Unlike conventional funds, which are restricted to particular sectors, total return funds can radically switch assets in search of a performance target. This would give MAM the opportunity to use classic hedge strategies such as short-selling — selling shares it does not own — and leverage, which involves borrowing to invest.

If launched, the new fund will be aimed at the big pension funds run by local authorities and blue chip companies, which are increasingly looking at ways to diversify their assets and reduce risk. However, wealthy private investors, would also be targeted.

Since the spring MAM has lost more investment mandates than it has won, including the £12 billion mandate from Unilever, which it had shared with Schroders.



Digging in: miners are unhappy with the offer of RPI-1 per cent, having seen the chief executive get a £224,460 bonus last year

# Miners threaten strike over pay offer from RJB

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

RJB MINING could be on the brink of the first miners' strike for 15 years as anger grows over a pay deal planned by the company.

Two of the main unions have given Richard Budge, the chief executive, an ultimatum to improve the current five-year offer of inflation minus 1 per cent or face a ballot for a strike. Another source said: "This is a difficult time for RJB, but Richard Budge has never demonstrated any willingness to share good fortune. There is growing resentment and people have seen through him."

The UDM, which has given RJB a fortnight to improve its offer, was formed 15 years ago as a breakaway from the National Union of Democratic Min-

eworkers, said: "There is a feeling that the workforce are not going to be walked all over any more. They have lost their faith in Richard Budge. This is the first time the UDM has considered strike action in 15 years."

Another source said: "This is a difficult time for RJB, but Richard Budge has never demonstrated any willingness to share good fortune. There is growing resentment and people have seen through him."

The UDM, which has given RJB a fortnight to improve its offer, was formed 15 years ago as a breakaway from the National Union of Democratic Min-

when it led the last national strike. The NUM has also warned RJB that it will ballot for a strike.

RJB has told the mineworkers that it is under pressure from the Government to curb miners' pay — which averages about £26,000, including bonuses. In a letter to the UDM, William Rowell, managing director of deep-mine operations, said: "We have also been challenged by Government to further demonstrate our ability to control costs and reminded that part of this must be through wage restraint."

But the Department of Trade and Industry said it had given no specific guidance on how RJB should be competitive.

Earlier this year, RJB's annual report revealed that Mr Budge had been paid £610,000 in 1997. This included a bonus of £224,460 despite the fact that profits fell 9 per cent and the share price collapsed by 75 per cent.

The strike threat comes at a crucial time for RJB, which has still not signed key contracts with the electricity generators. Industry sources believe that the company is downbeat about prospects for the contracts.

# Wiseman hopes to serve London

By FRASER NELSON

ROBERT WISEMAN, Scotland's largest dairy company, has lined up about six English sites that it could use as a staging post to move in on London's milk market.

Alan Wiseman, chairman, is prepared to invest £30 million in a new purpose-built site to serve London branches of Tesco, Asda and Safeway, the group's main customers.

However, none of the three supermarkets has yet given assurances of support for the new dairy. Until that happens, Wiseman cannot act.

Mr Wiseman conceded that London is served by plenty of dairy companies, but said that most sites were in poor condition. "The London area is supplied by dairies that were built 40, 50, 60 years ago, designed for glass bottles which just aren't used anymore," he said.

The company, which has 75 per cent of the Scottish market, spent £30 million building a dairy in Manchester four years ago and it said that this had proved a great success.

Mr Wiseman said that the company has received tentative takeover approaches, but had rejected each one. His family owns 50.8 per cent of the company's shares, ruling out a hostile bid.

In the half year to October 3, the company made pre-tax profits of £9.16 million (£8.65 million), sharply ahead of City expectations, as its Manchester plant reached 80 per cent capacity. Earnings per share were 7.64p (7.32p). An interim dividend of 1.4p (1.32p) is due on February 18.

Tempus, page 30

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Legal bill for Astra case to top £1m

THE Government is set to pay more than £1 million to cover the costs of the legal proceedings against the former chairman and directors of Astra Holdings, the UK company linked to the supertank affair. It was disclosed yesterday, Kim Howells, the Trade and Industry Minister, said in a House of Commons written reply that so far the public has paid £355,500 for the costs of five out of six directors who have been defending themselves against disqualification proceedings brought by the Department of Trade and Industry.

The only significant outstanding costs are those of Gerald James, former chairman of the company, who is receiving legal aid, but whose solicitors have already been paid £400,000 on account. In addition, the costs of the Treasury Solicitor acting for the DTI are estimated at £280,000. The proceedings against Mr James and the directors followed an investigation into Astra, which collapsed in 1992. Mr James made a number of disclosures about the export of arms to Iraq and Iran in 1990. The trial collapsed in April after the disclosure of a letter written by DTI investigators stating that there was no justification for taking proceedings against the directors.

### Commerzbank link

COMMERZBANK, Germany's third-biggest bank, and Assicurazioni Generali, the Italian insurance group, have signed a co-operation agreement that will see the companies acquire cross-shareholdings in each other's businesses. Generali is taking a 5 per cent interest in Commerzbank at a cost of about DM1.2 billion (£436 million). Commerzbank will invest the same amount in its Italian partner, giving it a stake of 2.5 per cent in Generali. The new product and sales co-operation will apply worldwide.

### Wyevalle acquisition

WYEVALE Garden Centres has bought Kennedys Garden Centres for up to £18.8 million. The price consists of between £12.25 million and £13 million for shareholders' equity and £5.8 million of debt. The purchase is payable in cash and is being met out of Wyevalle's cash resources. The acquisition takes the number of garden centres operated by Wyevalle to 78. Kennedys operates 13 garden centres in southeast and central England. In the year to December 31, 1997, Kennedys had turnover of £12.69 million, and pre-tax profits of £1.03 million.

### Churchill falls further

SHARES of Churchill China, the ceramics manufacturer, lost nearly a third of their value yesterday after the group's third profits warning this year. The shares, which traded above 600p late last year, fell 30p to 37p yesterday. Pre-tax profits were £6.1 million in the previous 12 months, but analysts have cut predictions for this year from £3 million to £1.3 million. The results are due in March 1999. Churchill said sales in the hotelware division were down in the third quarter and the trend was expected to continue.

### Eidos buys US studio

EIDOS, the UK computer games company, has completed the \$47.5 million (£28.6 million) acquisition of America's Crystal Dynamics. It was announced yesterday. Crystal Dynamics, based in Palo Alto, is an independent development studio whose forthcoming releases include titles like GEX III Deep Cover Gecko, Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver and Akuji the Heartless. The acquisition has been financed from existing Eidos cash resources, with 50 per cent of the consideration paid on completion and the balance deferred until April 1999.

# Knoydart eviction threat

RECEIVERS appointed at Knoydart Peninsula, the Scottish estate formerly owned by Stephen Hinchliffe and Christopher Harrison, are threatening to evict the estate manager who was in a legal battle with the former P&O bosses after they sacked him earlier this year (Jason Nisè writes). Ian Robertson was dismissed as manager of the

West of Scotland estate by Mr Harrison shortly after he visited Knoydart at Easter.

Mr Robertson sued Knoydart Peninsula, the company which owns the estate, for £26,000 that he said he was owed and for wrongful dismissal. The Fort William Sheriff's Court awarded him £12,000 last month and there is a hearing on the remainder

to take place on November 27. The wrongful dismissal case is set to be heard in Glasgow two days before that.

Laurie Manson, of PricewaterhouseCoopers, appointed receivers to Knoydart Peninsula ten days ago, has written to Mr Robertson saying there is no documentation to prove he has a right to occupy the cottage he lives in on the estate.

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Denmark Kr	11.23	10.34
Egypt £	5.87	5.28
Finland Mk	9.06	8.31
France Fr	9.05	8.07
Germany Dm	2.962	2.720
Greece Dr	496	459
Hong Kong \$	13.70	12.50
Iceland Is	128	108
Indonesia Rp	17317	12517
Iranian Rl	11798	10696
Israel Sh	7.49	6.83
Italy Lit	2944	2707
Japan Yen	215.81	198.28
Malaysia S	0.664	0.595
Netherlands Gld	3.348	3.053
New Zealand \$	3.23	2.99
Norway Kr	13.00	12.06
Portugal Esc	205.19	277.16
S Africa Rd	9.90	8.94
Spain Ptas	243.57	230.78
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£1+	0.20	0.16

Lloyds Bank Account for Under 19s	Gross %	Net %
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£10,000+	1.75	1.40
£ 5,000+	0.75	0.60
£ 1+	0.25	0.20

Choice Account	Gross %	Net %
£1+	0.20	0.16

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THE TIMES  
 Teleport boosts Comcast  
 Ki E wi  
 Springboard

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10 1998  
BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Bill for Astra to top £1m

ment is set to pay more than £1 million in legal proceedings against the former directors of Astra Holdings, the UK mobile phone and Internet company, it was disclosed yesterday. The UK Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, John Major, said in a House of Commons statement that so far the public has received £1.5 million in compensation from the company's liquidation. The liquidation was supervised by the Department of Trade and Industry. The liquidation costs are those of Astra Holdings, which is now a public company. The liquidation costs have been paid for by the company's directors. The liquidation costs are estimated at £1.5 million. The liquidation costs are estimated at £1.5 million. The liquidation costs are estimated at £1.5 million.

### Bank link

NK Germany's leading bank, and all the other major banks, have agreed to provide a £1 billion loan to the government. The loan is to be provided in cash and in kind. The loan is to be provided in cash and in kind. The loan is to be provided in cash and in kind. The loan is to be provided in cash and in kind.

### Tele acquisition

an American company, Kennedy Cable, has acquired a 50% stake in the UK cable company, Teleport. The acquisition is valued at £1.5 billion. The acquisition is valued at £1.5 billion. The acquisition is valued at £1.5 billion. The acquisition is valued at £1.5 billion.

### Bill falls further

the bill for Astra Holdings, the UK mobile phone and Internet company, has fallen further. The bill is now estimated at £1.5 million. The bill is now estimated at £1.5 million. The bill is now estimated at £1.5 million. The bill is now estimated at £1.5 million.

### buys US studio

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# Captain Oates of M&S

There may be diligent executives somewhere in Baker Street who continue to give their full attention to the perfect recipe for a new sauce or the ideal set of a jacket sleeve, but there will not be many of them. The boardroom shenanigans have now reached such a level that no one at Marks & Spencer can be unaware of the turmoil now endangering the company.

When a deputy chairman makes a public bid for preference, as Keith Oates did this weekend, the result is destabilisation on an extraordinary scale. The announcement that he was volunteering his services as half of a 'dream ticket' to run the company announced to a nightmare for an organisation which tries, and usually succeeds, to keep its public utterances running carefully to script. Marks & Spencer was praising the Alastair Campbell approach to news management long before New Labour discovered the importance of keeping everyone on message.

In grabbing the microphone to announce his ambitions, Mr Oates has surely put an end to his career at M&S. Many think he had little to lose, since his name was no longer being taken seriously in the debate as to who would move into the seat which, eventually, he vacated by Sir Richard Greenbury. But it is now impossible to imagine how he can go on working in the organisation if the non-executives

## COMMENTARY

by our City Editor

turn down his suggestion, which they most surely will. The succession issue at M&S has been moving up the agenda, belatedly, throughout this year. The non-executives had hoped that they might be allowed to ponder it until next spring, in the hope, no doubt, that their rather jaundiced view of all the potential internal candidates might be proven unfair and a worthy successor blossom forth. What the Oates outburst has done is to multiply the pressure for a speedy decision. The company cannot be allowed to endure months more of such uncertainty; the board must decide who will run the company at a time when it clearly does need strong management.

### LucasVarity left in no man's land

The board of LucasVarity has publicly declared itself to be 100 per cent behind its chief executive, Victor Rice. Privately, however, some of the directors must be asking themselves whether Mr Rice's position is really tenable. And if there is a question mark over his head, then there must also be one hanging over Ed Wallis, the chairman.

## Kingfisher creates European leader with B&Q merger

EUROPE'S largest do-it-yourself retailer was created yesterday as Kingfisher finalised its £3.6 billion deal to merge its B&Q division with Castorama, its French counterpart (see Commentary, this page). The enlarged company, with 440 stores across nine European countries, will generate turnover twice that of its nearest competitor to become the third-largest DIY company in the world.

It can make savings of about £50 million a year — even without job cuts — by placing larger wholesale orders with its suppliers. Kingfisher, led by Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, has given Castorama full control of B&Q on

## Imperial makes US debut

IMPERIAL TOBACCO, which yesterday listed on the New York Stock Exchange, has no intention of trying to follow in the footsteps of LucasVarity by proposing a move of domicile from London to the US, according to Gareth Davies, the group chief executive.

"We've no intention of doing a LucasVarity. The listing of our ADRs (American Depository Receipts) reflects our growing shareholder base and our commitment to US investors," said Mr Davies. Imperial Tobacco, spun-off from the old Hanson Industries, has a shareholder base of around 30 per cent in America.

## Hammerson sells Canadian property portfolio

HAMMERSON, the property group, has sold its Canadian portfolio to a state pension fund for £238 million, the company announced yesterday.

The sale to OMERS Realty Corporation, a subsidiary of Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System, marks the end of Hammerson's 30-year involvement in Canada's property market and a continuation of its strategy to shed overseas assets and concentrate on the UK and continental market.

## Teleport boosts Comcast

COMCAST, the cable operator, reported a third-quarter profit after it posted a \$1.09 billion pre-tax gain from an investment in Teleport, a telephone company bought by AT&T Corp (Our City Staff writes).

The \$706.6 million (about £227 million) profit made by Comcast compared with a \$62.2 million loss a year ago.

The company said that consolidated operating cashflow rose 15.3 per cent to \$420.7 million and revenues grew 12.5 percent to \$1.36 billion. Current-year results included cable systems in Florida, Delaware and Maryland, acquired last March and April. Comcast was one of three companies that shared a 66 per cent stake in Teleport, which offered local business phone service.

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## Rival bid for Bilton unlikely

HOPES of a white-knight rescue for Bilton, the property company facing a £270 million hostile bid from Slough Estates, were fading yesterday as it emerged that two more City institutions have sold their stakes in the market (Fraser Nelson writes).

Gartmore Investment has sold £4.33 million of Bilton shares at 290p. Fleming Investment Management also said it has sold a £191,000 stake at 290p. Both batches are understood to have been picked up by Slough. Analysts said that no institution would have sold at these levels if they thought anyone would trump Slough's 307p-a-share cash offer. Slough has built up a 12 per cent stake in Bilton almost entirely from institutional shareholders.



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ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY



# Why the world financial crisis was so shortlived

### Pragmatic central bankers and calmer investors should stop the global economy going off the rails

Exactly four weeks ago, when this column suggested that "the greatest financial crisis since the 1930s" might be over already, this comment was intended as a wry joke. It was certainly possible to discern the first glimmers of hope in financial markets amid all the fashionable gloom of early October.

But even for someone who was instinctively sceptical about the self-serving apocalyptic prophecies of inefficient industrialists, imprudent bankers and reckless fund managers, it scarcely seemed conceivable that this crisis of the global capitalist system, which no less an authority than Alan Greenspan was publicly comparing to a terminal cancer, would give way to another outburst of euphoria before the end of the month.

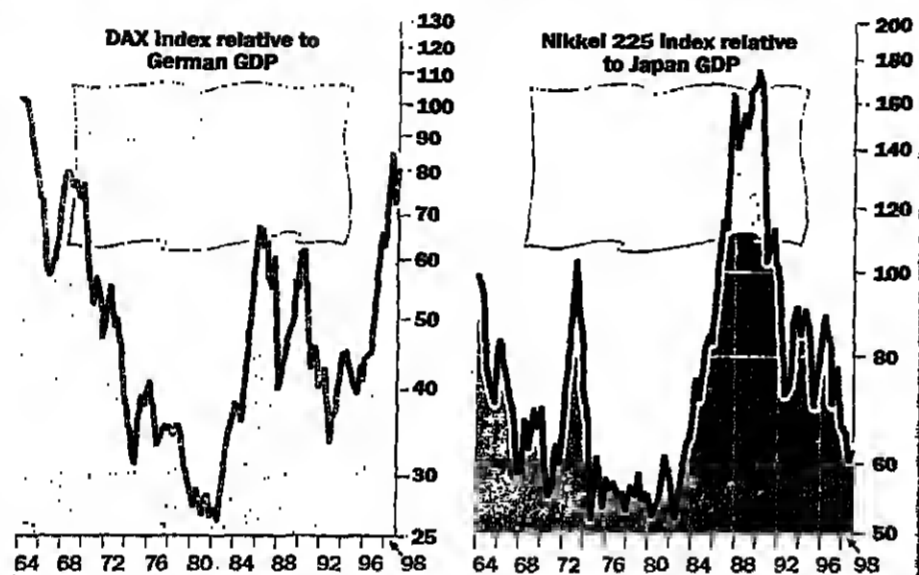
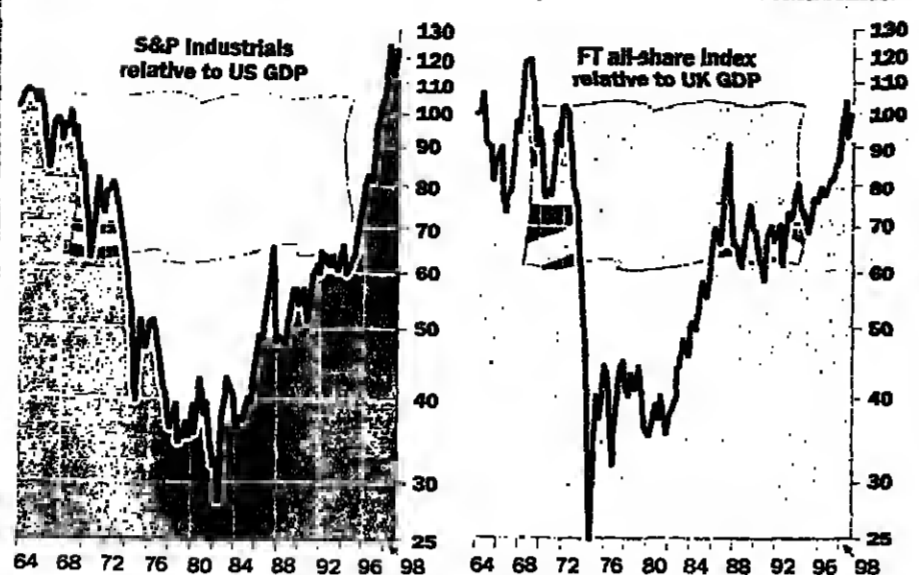
Yet that is exactly what has happened. Instead of the widely predicted meltdown, financial markets have suffered what Wall Street wags now describe as a "melt-up". The 14 per cent gain in US equity prices in October made it the best single month for Wall Street since January 1987. By contrast bond markets, which rejoice in recessions and swoon in horror at the prospect of rapid economic growth, have just experienced their worst month since 1994.

Could the world economy really have changed so profoundly in a single month to justify this abrupt turnaround? The answer, perhaps surprisingly, is "yes". Specifically, there were two crucial changes that became dimly discernible in early October. These have now gone far enough to justify a confident assertion that the crisis is past. The first and most important change has been in the behaviour of politicians and central bankers. The second change has been in the behaviour of the financial markets themselves. Between them, these two changes have genuinely transformed the prospects for the world economy. Economic policymakers in America, Britain and increasingly even in Japan and continental Europe, have explicitly recognised both their ability and their responsibility to avert a global recession. Meanwhile, the return of bullish sentiment to financial markets could soon start to show through in surveys of consumer and business confidence. These improvements in confidence will in turn help to sustain world economic activity and demand.

Let us consider the political factor first. After the creation of a Red-Green coalition in Germany and President Clinton's decisive victory in America we now see strong, activist governments bankers, committed to essentially Keynesian policies

### GLOBAL STOCK MARKETS BACK TO "IRRATIONAL EXUBERANCE"?

STOCK MARKET INDICES RELATIVE TO NOMINAL GDP (Jan 1964=100) Source: Datastream



widely regarded as irrelevant, at best, to the real world of business and employment. While investors swing from euphoria to despair and back again, people continue to lose their jobs and even to starve in Asia, Latin America and Russia, industrialists find their order-books shrivelling at a rate not seen since the early 1980s and shopkeepers discover that frightened consumers suddenly prefer to save their money, rather than spend it.

In trying to understand events in the real economy of jobs and production it is often correct to ignore the gyrations of financial markets. There are, however, times when financial prices must be closely watched if we want to guess what economic events may be in store. This is not because the stock markets are particularly good at forecasting the future but because they directly influence the decisions of consumers, businessmen, employers and politicians as they go to make.

Clearly the recent worldwide crisis and the present apparent recovery is such a period; the performance of the real economy is being strongly influenced by financial events.

Had Wall Street not fallen by 20 per cent in those few scary days of late August, it is unlikely that Western commentators and politicians would have spent the rest of the autumn worrying about a 1930s-style depression and making millenarian pronouncements about the end of the capitalist world. For the real threat to global economic prosperity that emerged in the summer was not related to the sudden loss of trade with Asia and Russia, painful though that was to the many manufacturers, exporters and multinationals exposed to these parts of the world. The real danger came from a possible collapse of spending within America and Europe if consumers reacted to the decline in the value of their savings by tightening their belts.

With the American personal savings rate now running at zero or even negative numbers — in other words, with American consumers now spending more than they earn — the scope for a big retrenchment in spending is obviously alarming. As long as equity prices keep rising, this presents no problem to most Americans — the stock market is doing their saving for them. But what will happen when the stock market falters again — not because of Russia or Asia, but simply because share prices are again much too high? How can Americans be encouraged to increase their savings gradually without killing global demand for consumer goods?

These are the great unanswered questions still threatening the world economy and the great bull market. They should be easier to answer now that policymakers have taken seriously their responsibility to avert recession and investors have recognised that, while stock markets may be overvalued, capitalism is not on the brink of a 1930s-style collapse.

of demand management all over the world. Policy activism may not be in tune with the monetarist conventional wisdom of the 1970s and 1980s, especially among bankers, businessmen and financiers, but at a time when the world economy is obviously more threatened by recession than inflation, the newly popular philosophy of active demand management is being greeted with universal relief. By a process of democratic political osmosis, Keynesian-style attitudes to economics are percolating deep into the central banks.

The US Federal Reserve Board has, of course, been committed for years to a pragmatic neo-Keynesian policy of managing demand so as to maintain the lowest possible level of unemployment and unused industrial capacity consistent with low inflation. Nowhere has this philosophy been adopted more enthusiastically than the Bank of England, as evidenced by last week's aggressive reduction in interest rates. It has been fashionable in the City to suggest that the Bank's unexpected decision to cut interest rates by 50 instead of 25 basis points was a sign of panic and an indication that the economy is now much weaker than the bank expected it to be a few months ago. We will learn tomorrow about the

Bank's detailed inflation and economic forecasts, but my guess is that they will show only a modest downward revision in economic growth.

The real key to the Monetary Policy Committee's unexpectedly radical decision was to be found in a lecture by Charles Goodhart, "Central Bankers and Uncertainty", delivered on October 29. I only wish I had read it more carefully and brought it to readers' attention before last week's decision by the Bank.

Central banks, according to Professor Goodhart, would generally be more successful in stabilising both inflation and output if they were willing to move interest rates by larger margins than in the past and if they felt no embarrassment about reversing their decisions. Since economic information is constantly changing, a monetary policy that is aiming for a fixed inflation target should be free to respond to these inherently unpredictable fluctuations in an unpredictable way.

This hair-trigger activism is only a theoretical model subject to all kinds of caveats about the possible dangers of destabilising financial expectations, as Professor Goodhart and his academic colleagues admit. That is why at least one

or two further reductions in interest rates remain likely in Britain and America, even if financial and economic conditions continue to improve. More importantly, policy activism runs against the traditions of central bankers and politicians, who find it unaccountably difficult ever to admit that their last move may have been "insufficient" or even "wrong". The institution where personal embarrassment and pride are likely to prove the biggest obstacles to changes in monetary policy is, of course, the European Central Bank. But even at the ECB, the signs are growing that Keynesian attitudes will soon be imposed by the new German Government's appointees. These signs have helped to relieve the dangerous hardening of the mark in the past few weeks — and the weaker currency should, in turn, help to stabilise financial markets and business sentiment in Germany and the rest of Europe, just as it was threatening to become the weakest region of the world economy in the year ahead.

More generally, the changes in market conditions should be reassuring, even to people who have nothing invested in stocks and shares. To many people this may seem surprising. The manic depressive behaviour of financial markets is

# Have you received our press release on PR qualifications?



anything more in the sponsors. The price Guinness paid to sponsor the forthcoming rugby World Cup was nearly three times the price paid by Heineken last time and the Football Association is asking four times the £1 million a year paid by Green Flag to sponsor the England football team. The FA has had no takers and may well have to drop the price substantially if it is to secure a sponsor.

### MARKET LEADER

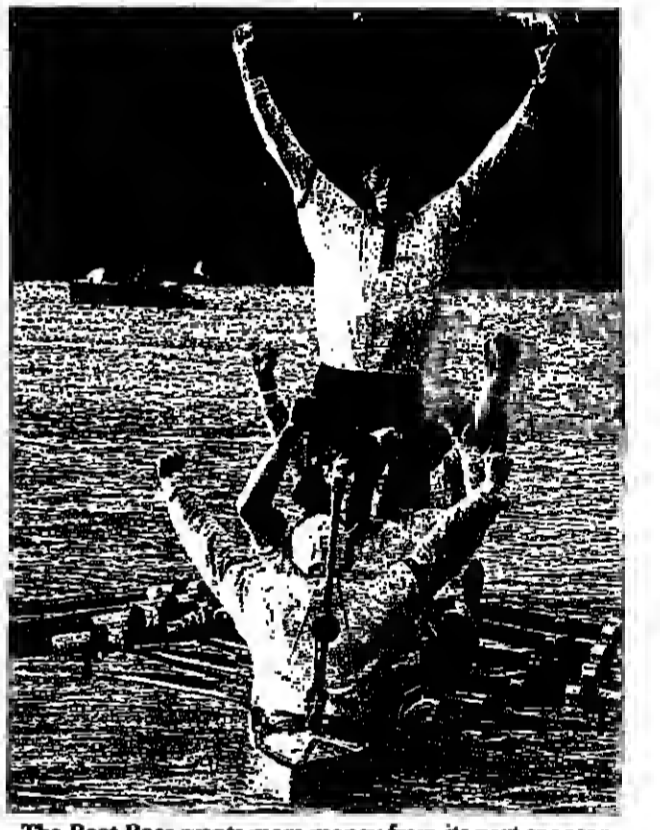
Of course, when promoting standards in the industry, there is a fundamental problem — membership of the IPR is entirely voluntary. Indeed, the most influential spin doctor in the country — Alastair Campbell, Tony Blair's press secretary — is not a member and so would not be covered by the code of practice.

The annual Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race is searching for a new sponsor — Beefeater gin having given up after being asked to more than double the price it has been paying in its current three-year deal. The Allied Domecq brand felt the race was good value at £400,000 a year but the race organisers were looking for £1 million each race to carry on. This upping of the price follows a pattern across sports sponsorship at the moment. Big events feel they can ask for greatly increased sponsorship fees without actually offering

Of these super-qualified spin doctors, 4 per cent admit to having degrees in public relations. There are now 15 IPR-accredited degrees at 11 British universities (as well as two degrees that the IPR refuses to put its name to), and the IPR is promoting five post-graduate diplomas that are due to start next year, including the London School of Economics and Leeds Metropolitan University. Bemused by how long it would take to teach someone the correct way to say: "I'll have to get back to you on that one," I asked Peter Walker, the president of the IPR, what is taught on these courses.

He explained that among the topics covered are communications theory and practices, management studies, economics and an explanation of what PR actually is. "Of course, these courses cannot teach you the specific skills, like how to operate the coffee machine, but they provide a sharp focus for people who want to make a career in public relations," says Mr Walker.

Another thing the IPR is doing is to promote professional standards. It has been talking with the Cabinet Office and the Financial Services Authority about a code of practice for the industry. This is to stop problems like the infamous "Friday-night drop" where price-sensitive stories about public companies are passed to the Sunday papers ahead of being officially announced. Mr Walker points out that the IPR already has a disciplinary procedure in place, with an annually elected disciplinary committee. However, it has only ever expelled three members — one who was censured by a Department of Trade and Industry inquiry, another who was censured by the Stock Exchange and a third who set up a bogus organisation purporting to represent a foreign government. Telling lies, apparently, is not

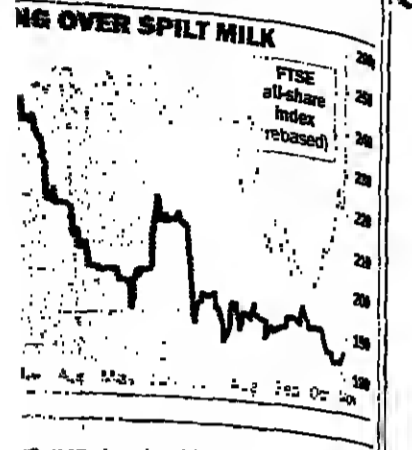


The Boat Race wants more money from its next sponsor

## id a prayer

s is ahead of schedule. This is not entirely surprising news — the final saving envisaged in the budget was £1 billion a year. But just as the sterling pain is easing, BA's poor results earlier this week back down a new currency worry. The strengthening of the pound means a hit of £85 million in the third quarter if rates don't change.

up a shortlist of new sites. In these conditions, who would be better advised to save its money with shares trading at a relatively healthy 11.7 times last year's earnings, than to invest in a takeover offer.



FTSE OVER SPILT MILK

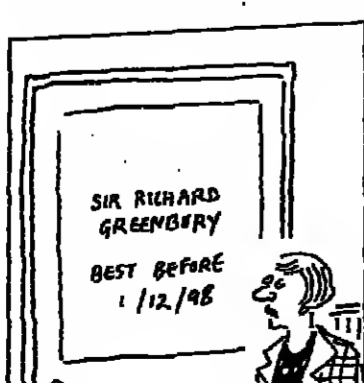
and there are signs of starting a new out and on markets — especially in the technology industry given the downturn in the sector.

## WALL STREET

of demand management all over the world. Policy activism may not be in tune with the monetarist conventional wisdom of the 1970s and 1980s, especially among bankers, businessmen and financiers, but at a time when the world economy is obviously more threatened by recession than inflation, the newly popular philosophy of active demand management is being greeted with universal relief.

## Vacant lot

A SIGN that City job losses have spilled over into the housing market: George Wimpey has quietly stopped work on an expensive development in Docklands. The second phase of Royal Victoria Dock, one of the biggest projects in the area, was to have finished next year, but the site has now been closed.



MeS

£175,000 to £200,000, were or were not "luxury". Eventually we settled on "upper middle market", but at that price they were clearly aimed at City buyers.

"We held off because confidence is low, and we expect confidence to be higher later," said a spokeswoman. There were to have been 900 homes on the whole site in all. Now the remaining 300 on the first phase will gradually be sold.

THE virtual impossibility of separating in the mind Cable & Wireless, telephone operator, with Cable & Wireless Communications, cable operator, has not been helped by their perverse decision to keep the same logo for each, along with some overlap in management.

Now I see the companies have found an easy way to distinguish themselves. The chief executive of CBW, sobersided FTSE component, is Richard H. Brown, according to an official letter. The chairman of funky, go-ahead CBW Comms is Dick "Just call me Dick" Brown.



of your purchase, I can arrange a healthy secondary market. Just down the road is International Defense Review, founded by Fred Jane to produce Jane's Fighting Ships et al, and this year is its centenary.

THE business lacks some of the founder's varied oeuvre and has decided to rebuild the library. Mark Daly, editor-in-chief, picked up BBF Vol 1 at the local Oxfam. Vol II, alas, had been sold shortly before, although it is hard to imagine who would want one without the other.

## Gallic gall

IN THE diary business, plagiarism is the sincerest form of flattery. L'Agefi, the French business paper, has recycled, uncredited, my tale about a competition to find a name for the British-German alliance of stock exchanges. This received few British entries because the prize was a weekend in Frankfurt, while German entrants got a weekend in London.

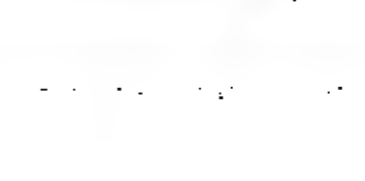
AN HONOUR for PricewaterhouseCoopers, featured in a new set of stamps commemorating the merger that created PwC and 60 years of business in the country issuing them. This unprecedented stamp of approval has come from The Netherlands Antilles, a state more often associated in financial services with brass plates about three feet above sea level and a certain opacity in its regulatory system. Still, it's a nice thought.

NOW his replacement has been appointed, what of Simon Lewis's future at Centrica? He was seconded to Buckingham Palace for a two-year term and it was always accepted that he would one day return.

Now, I hear, the problem has been solved. Lewis will run part of the company. As I somehow cannot see him down a hole and rooting about among the pipes, we can assume it will be marketing or some such.

But when? Public perception, as we speak, is of Buck House and Prince Charles's office at daggers drawn, with added speculation about the Queen's abdication.

It is rather as if, at Centrica, he had created the impression that the two former halves of British Gas loathed each other, but that his chairman might be going early. Perhaps not his fault, but perception is all in your business, is it not, Simon?



Lewis: will return to Centrica

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# Dow's rise fails to ease jobs toll on Wall Street

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

WALL STREET is continuing to shed extravagantly paid employees, in spite of the 1,000-point rise in the Dow Jones industrial average during the past three weeks.

JP Morgan is believed to be cutting 5 per cent of its global workforce to cut costs as profits plummet. Some 800 employees will be affected, most probably including London staff.

Last month JP Morgan announced a 69 per cent drop in quarterly profits and speculation about staff reductions have since swept America's fourth-biggest bank.

JP Morgan was one of the first to start the current round of Wall Street job cuts earlier this year. Even before the market peaked in July, the bank made an initial 5 per cent staff reduction.

The latest cuts will be in addition to the first wave of redundancies and are seen on Wall Street as an attempt by Douglas Warner, the bank's chairman, to fend off calls for his resignation.

The cuts are expected to hit most areas of the bank, including emerging markets, where problems have been the most prominent.

Merrill Lynch, the top US broker, has also said that it will let 3,400 people, or 5 per cent of the workforce, go.

In a joint effort with other Wall Street banks, Merrill paid \$300 million (£181 million) for a stake in Long Term Capital Management, the failed hedge fund.

Citigroup has seen another executive departure after last week's exodus-cum-reshuffle in the newly created financial services group.

Steven Black, vice-chairman and chief operating officer of Salomon Smith Barney, resigned over internal wranglings. Mr Black had been second in command to Jamie Dimon, president of Citigroup and co-chairman of Salomon Smith Barney, who was forced out over problems with combining Citicorp and Travelers Group's operations. Citigroup operations reporting to Mr Dimon last month showed a quarterly loss of \$1.3 billion.

One analyst said Citigroup was at the stage of merging operations at which it should have been several months ago. "They still have the Noah's Ark approach - two executives for each post," he said. Even after Mr Dimon's departure, which was supposed to clear the air, management misunderstandings seem to have continued at Citigroup.

Mr Black, who joined Smith Barney in 1974, was asked by Michael Carpenter, Mr Dimon's successor, to stay. Mr Carpenter suggested a veteran financier such as Mr Black should be able to take a rational rather than an emotional decision. But after Mr Black consulted Sandy Weill, co-chairman, he felt persuaded to leave.



Jeff Chapman, left, chief executive, and Robert Bowles, finance director, are confident that the group can meet its targets

## Hill Hire ahead at half time

By SAIED SHAH

HILL HIRE, the truck and trailer rental firm based in Bradford, said yesterday that it was confident of meeting all its targets for the year as it announced improved half-yearly performance.

Pre-tax profits rose by 21 per cent to £2.61 million for the six months to September 30, with turnover up 28 per cent to £15.57 million.

John Priestley, chairman, said that current economic uncertainty would benefit the

company by giving a boost to the trend towards outsourcing. "This, together with the group's expansion into new locations and our potential to increase market share, leaves us feeling optimistic about the outcome for the year," he said.

Earnings per share were lifted 18 per cent to 7.44p and the company declared an interim dividend of 1.6p (1.46p). Hill Hire opened its sixth site last month at Rainham in Essex.

He said that Dragons, whose clubs cost between £2 million and £2.5 million to develop, was also considering a move into management contracts. "Without having to invest its own money," Mr Treharne was speaking as the group reported a 68 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to

## Dragons seeks to consolidate

By DOMINIC WALSH

DRAGONS Health Clubs, the AIM-listed fitness club operator, is in discussions with a number of unquoted rivals over merger and acquisition opportunities.

John Treharne, managing director, said yesterday: "The market is going to be subject to a certain amount of consolidation. We're at an advanced stage of negotiations with several operators."

He said that Dragons, whose clubs cost between £2 million and £2.5 million to develop, was also considering a move into management contracts. "Without having to invest its own money," Mr Treharne was speaking as the group reported a 68 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to

£1 million in the year to July 31, as new clubs helped to lift turnover by 80 per cent to £7.4 million. Earnings per share reached 9.6p (8.8p) and a final dividend of 1.95p makes 2.9p (2.64p).

During the year it acquired clubs at Brentwood and Gatwick and has just exchanged contracts to acquire its 12th site, in Learnington Spa. It has a further four to six sites in the pipeline.

Mr Treharne said the group had yet to experience any softening of demand, claiming that the 30 to 45 age profile of its members would defend the group against a downturn in household leisure expenditure. Its shares gained 5p to 173½p.

# Broadcasters draw up World Cup battle plans

Raymond Snoddy on the latest push to show pay-TV the red card

The European Broadcasting Union, the organisation that groups the public broadcasters of Europe, is about to launch a continent-wide political campaign to protect the World Cup football finals for terrestrial television.

The EBU, whose members include the BBC, will write to its members later this month urging them to take immediate action to try to persuade their parliaments to take action to protect as many games in the finals as possible from going to pay-television.

The move will run directly counter to the commercial interests of the Kirch organisation, which bought the European rights to both the 2002 and 2006 World Cup finals for a total of \$3.2 billion (about £1.9 billion).

Fifa, the world football governing body, has expressed a preference that the 2002 finals in Japan and South Korea should appear on terrestrial television. However, the EBU is afraid that in many countries not all games will be available on free-to-air television. The EBU will advise its 60-plus broadcasting members to follow the UK example and push their governments to protect, at the very least, all the finals games for terrestrial television.

Earlier this year Chris Smith, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport,

strengthened the list of protected events to include all the finals, plus the major qualifying games of the home nations. As part of the review of "listed events" cricket was freed to sell some Test matches to subscription television. The EBU will point out to its members that action has to be taken urgently because Kirch will begin selling broadcasting rights to the 2002 World Cup finals in the next few months.

Industry analysts believe that Kirch will be forced to sell a significant portion of the rights in

advance to meet the cost of buying the European rights.

In the past, the EBU, which buys sports rights on behalf of its member organisations, has always won the European rights. This time, it was outbid by the commercial sector.

The commercial sale of rights could mean that ITV might outbid the BBC for the 2002 World Cup rights rather than sharing them with the BBC as has happened in the past.

As the EBU launches its campaign to protect terrestrial television rights across Europe a key question will be the attitude of Fifa, and the extent to which the world body will allow pay-television to dominate, if not in 2002 then in 2006, when the games may be staged in England.



Smith: protected events

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### INTEREST EARNING ACCOUNTS

Business Call Account - Monthly Interest (Instant Access) table

Clients Call Account - Half Yearly Interest table

Premier Interest Account - Monthly Interest (14 Day Notice) table

Clients Call Account - Monthly Interest table

Business Investment Account - Monthly Interest (30 Day Notice) table

Treasurers Account - Monthly Interest table

Business Reserve Account - Quarterly Interest (14 Day Notice) table

Deposit Account - Monthly Interest (7 Day Notice) table

Deposit Account - Half Yearly Interest (7 Day Notice) table

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## Dassault stake set for transfer

THE French Government is expected to transfer its 45.76 per cent stake in Dassault Aviation to Aérospatiale this week, clearing the way for Dassault to join the future Aérospatiale-Matra grouping, known as France Aerospace.

It is believed a shareholders' pact has been signed between the state and Dassault Industries, Dassault Aviation's main shareholder, controlled by the Dassault family.

Under the terms of the pact, decisions on certain key strategies will be jointly made by Aérospatiale and Dassault Industries. Discussions are continuing on Dassault's entry into France Aerospace's capital. France Aerospace is scheduled to be formed in January.

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### Greene King cuts its Irish ale brand

By DOMINIC WALSH

GREENE KING, the East Anglian brewer, has axed Wexford Irish Cream Ale, its nitrokey bitter, less than three years after a high-profile, £1 million launch.

The decision to drop the brand follows a sharp fall in sales, caused partly by the launch of Greene King XS, a cheaper smoothflow bitter. The company has done a deal with Bass enabling it to supply Caffrey's to its pubs where there is continuing demand for an Irish ale.

A spokesman for the company said yesterday: "The bottom has dropped out of the Irish market. The brand did very well for a while, but it had passed its peak. It became apparent that demand would only get worse."

According to figures from AC Nielsen, the market research company, in the 12 months to June sales volumes of Caffrey's declined by 4 per cent. However, in a recent research note, Nigel Parson, brewing analyst at WestLB Panmure, said: "Caffrey's has spawned a host of imitators. Many of these are close to withdrawing and Caffrey's could return to growth."

Greene King shares fell 1p to 515p yesterday, against a 12-month high of 758p.

## Clariant to join Ciba in £8bn speciality merger

By MARTIN BARROW

THE restructuring of the European chemicals industry looks a major step forward yesterday when Ciba Speciality Chemicals and the rival Clariant announced a merger to form the world's biggest speciality chemicals company.

The two Swiss companies will have a combined market capitalisation of SwFr20.1 billion (£8.7 billion) and annual sales of SwFr18 billion.

Earlier this year Ciba acquired Britain's Allied Colloids for £1.42 billion, thwarting a rival offer from Hercules Inc. of the United States.

Cost savings arising from the latest merger are expected to enhance annual profits by SwFr600 million by the end of 2001. The deal will trigger 3,000 job cuts from a combined workforce of 55,000.

The merged company will take the Clariant name, but will adopt Ciba's butterfly trademark as its emblem. The deal is described by the partners as "a merger of equals".

Clariant shareholders will get 54 per cent of the enlarged company and Ciba shareholders 46 per cent. Rolf Schweizer, the Clariant chairman, will be chairman and president, while Rolf Meyer, the Ciba chairman, will be chief executive and vice-chairman.



Rolf Schweizer, left, and Rolf Meyer announcing the merger in Basle yesterday

The companies said that they would have a strong platform for growth in the core businesses of additives and water treatment, cellulose ethers, process chemicals, fine chemicals and colours. The deal comes amid a consolidation in the specialty chemicals sector, and financial markets have been awash with speculation that the two cross-town rivals based in Basle would have to act boldly to

flourish in an extremely competitive environment.

Clariant was spun off from Sandoz in 1996 before Sandoz and Ciba-Geigy merged into the life sciences giant Novartis. Novartis itself spun off Ciba last year. Germany's Hoechst will retain its current 45 per cent stake in Clariant and will hold a stake in the enlarged company.

In 1997 Clariant had sales of SwFr10.1 billion and pre-tax

profits of SwFr1.03 billion. Ciba Speciality Chemicals had sales of SwFr9 billion and pre-tax profits of SwFr854 million.

After the merger, the new Clariant will set medium-term targets of a 20 per cent margin for earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation; net sales divided by average invested capital of 1.4; and sales growth of 1.5 times the rate of global economic growth.

### Strong demand for France Telecom

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS

FRANCE'S biggest ever share sale made a strong start yesterday as investors prepared for the Fr60 billion (£6.4 billion) government sale of a second tranche of France Telecom.

Demand for the shares is expected to be strong, fuelled by speculation that the French Government will not further reduce its stake below 62 per cent once the latest tranche is sold.

Some 44 million shares will be sold through a global placement with institutional investors. Bookbuilding started yesterday and will close on November 27 at the latest. A further 32 million will be sold in a fixed-price offer to private investors, in which bids are made in a cash amount instead of in a fixed number of shares.

At current share prices, France Telecom is valued at about Fr370 billion, so the 38 per cent total to be traded on the market represents about Fr140 billion.

The first sale of Telecom stock last October raised about Fr44 billion. Since then the shares have risen sharply from the launch price of Fr187. Yesterday they traded close to Fr370, at the upper end of the expected price range for the second tranche.

### Viag plans shake-up to sharpen focus

VIAG, the German diversified utility, announced a big restructuring yesterday, proposing a succession of divestments as it seeks to focus on chemicals, packaging, energy and telecoms. The company is to sell its logistics division and is already in talks with potential buyers of its Kloeckner & Co steel trading subsidiary. Separately, it is negotiating the sale of its 30 per cent stake in Kuehne & Nagle to the Swiss shipping group's founder.

Nine-month pre-tax profits at Viag rose 17 per cent to DM2.55 billion (£914 million), helped by the sale of its Computer 2000 subsidiary in America to Tech Data. At the operating level, profits rose 11 per cent, to DM2.46 billion. The company said: "For the full year 1998 we expect - despite a more unfavourable economic environment and expected start-up losses in European telecommunications - a further rise in operating profit." The group said that full-year pre-tax profits should increase markedly too.

### NFF advances 24%

NFF, the food manufacturer, yesterday announced pre-tax profits up 24 per cent to £630,000, before exceptional, for the six months to September 30. However, turnover fell to £16.28 million (£16.95 million). Philip Wilbraham, chairman, said that current Christmas trading at the group is positive and noted that it was the fourth consecutive time that earnings have increased by nearly 25 per cent. Earnings per share before exceptional rose to 1.03p, from 0.83p, and there is an increased interim dividend of 0.16p (0.1p).

### BG appointment

BRITISH GAS has replaced Simon Lewis, its former corporate affairs director, who is now working for the Queen. Mr Lewis is to be succeeded by Charles Naylor, head of corporate affairs at Amerasia Hess. Mr Naylor, 42, will start next month. Mr Lewis is on a two-year secondment to Buckingham Palace. Roy Gardner, chief executive of Centrica, British Gas's parent company, said Mr Lewis would return to a senior managerial role when he had finished at the Palace.

### Carr's Milling in red

CARR'S MILLING INDUSTRIES, the agriculture, food and engineering group, blamed "continuing extensive problems" in the agriculture sector for its first pre-tax loss in more than five years. The agriculture division of the company saw last year's £2.1 million profit turned into an operating loss of £300,000 for the year to August 29. The group as a whole announced a pre-tax loss of £1.8 million (£3.7 million profit), on turnover of £97.1 million (£101 million). The final dividend is 2p (8.5p).

### Student loans shortlist

THREE bidders have been shortlisted for the Government's second sale of £1 billion of student loans after indicative bids submitted by NM Rothschild, advisers to the Government. The shortlisted bidders are Barclays Capital, a consortium of Deutsche Bank and Nationwide Building Society, and Greenwich NatWest. They will be issued with an information memorandum and have been asked to submit final bids by January, with the sale expected to be completed by March 1999.

### French connection could secure London Electricity

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BIDS for London Electricity closed yesterday amid signs that Electricité de France had outbid British Energy. Other bidders have failed to offer a realistic price in the race that could see London Electricity sold for nearly £2 billion.

However, EDF may not have a clear run because of political sensitivities. The French state-owned company may have to offer an attractive deal

on the interconnector link between France and the UK.

Apart from occasional instances, the link has operated one-way traffic, with the French pumping subsidised nuclear power into Britain.

The Government could be keen to reverse the procedure and therefore expand the opportunities for electricity production and, importantly, the coal market.

If British Energy loses London Electricity it is likely that it would quickly turn its attentions elsewhere. It has been in discussions with Seaboard, the southeastern regional company majority owned by Southern Company of the US.

Seaboard has been lined up as one of British Energy's fall-back positions as the company moves to get a foot in the supply market.

### DCC bullish as computer services leads growth

By ADAM JONES

SHARES in DCC, the Irish conglomerate whose products range from healthfood to wheelchairs, surged yesterday after a 30 per cent rise in interim profits and a bullish trading update.

Pre-tax profits rose to Ir£16.8 million (£1.5 million) for the first half, from Ir£12.9 million last time, and turnover increased 20 per cent to Ir£367.7 million. The shares

rose from 375p to 435p in the London market.

The growth was driven by DCC's computer services division, where operating profits were up 58 per cent. Operating profits also rose 53 per cent in DCC's energy arm, which supplies gas and distributes oil.

DCC Food benefited from growing demand for healthfoods, ground coffee and wine in Ireland. Although profits ad-

vanced 9 per cent, margins in the healthcare arm were hit by a changing product mix, as sales favoured rehabilitation equipment rather than higher-margin wheelchairs and scooters for the elderly.

Earnings per share rose from Ir£12.15p to Ir£16.15p. An interim dividend of Ir£4.25p (Ir£3.52p) has been declared.

Times, page 30

## Enhance your performance with HP's new range of colour printers.



Running a business is like running a race. It's much easier to stay ahead of the competition if you start off with an unfair advantage.

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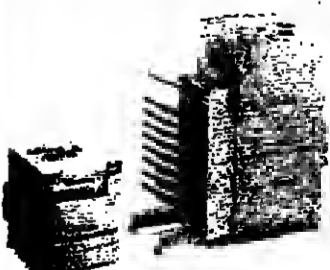
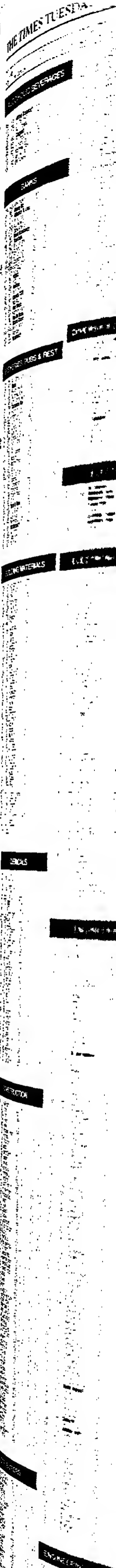


Table of unit trust prices for various funds including American Life, British American, and others. Columns include fund name, price, and change.

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Advertisement for Oddbins Champagne featuring Perrier Joët NV and a Christmas gift guide. Includes text: 'Send a fine bottle of fizz to a friend or business associate...'



Equities lower in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous days' close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Table listing various alcoholic beverage stocks such as Breweries, Pubs & Rest, and their respective prices and changes.

BANKS

Table listing various bank stocks and their market performance.

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Table listing stocks in the breweries, pubs, and restaurants sector.

BUILDING MATERIALS

Table listing various building materials stocks.

CHEMICALS

Table listing various chemical industry stocks.

CONSTRUCTION

Table listing various construction-related stocks.

DISTRIBUTORS

Table listing various distributor stocks.

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

Table listing various food manufacturer stocks.

HEALTHCARE

Table listing various healthcare industry stocks.

HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT

Table listing various household goods and textile stocks.

INSURANCE

Table listing various insurance company stocks.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table listing various investment trust funds.

ENGINEERING VEHICLES

Table listing various engineering and vehicle-related stocks.

ENGINEERING

Table listing various engineering industry stocks.

LEISURE & HOTELS

Table listing various leisure and hotel stocks.

MEDIA

Table listing various media industry stocks.

MINING

Table listing various mining company stocks.

PROPERTY

Table listing various real estate and property stocks.

RETAILERS FOOD

Table listing various food retail stocks.

RETAILERS GENERAL

Table listing various general retail stocks.

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Table listing short-term interest rates.

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

Table listing medium-term interest rates.

LONGS (over 15 years)

Table listing long-term interest rates.

UNWEIGHTED

Table listing unweighted interest rates.

INDEX-LINKED

Table listing index-linked interest rates.

INDEX-LINKED ON projected inflation of:

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PRINTING & PAPER

Table listing various printing and paper stocks.

PROPERTY

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TRANSPORT

Table listing various transport stocks.

WATER

Table listing various water utility stocks.

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

Table listing various alternative investment market stocks.

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INDEX-LINKED

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Table listing various telecommunications stocks.

PROPERTY

Table listing various real estate and property stocks.

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SUPPORT SERVICES

Table listing various support services stocks.

PROPERTY

Table listing various real estate and property stocks.

RETAILERS FOOD

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RETAILERS GENERAL

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SHORTS (under 5 years)

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GALLERIES  
Van Gogh and the rest of the big Paris shows  
PAGE 37

# THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE  
Terrence McNally staged in London  
PAGE 38



With a little help from the stars, Kilburn's theatre is now also a cinema and an art studio. Andy Lavender reports

## The Tricycle moves up a gear

**K**ilburn High Road is the bustling thoroughfare that goes north through London from genteel Maida Vale through the Irish pubs of Kilburn and Cricklewood and then on to the myriad superstore delights of Staples Corner. Halfway along, as you stew in the traffic, you come across an outpost of art: the Tricycle Theatre and Art Gallery, which since opening in 1980 has based its reputation on a canny mix of Irish drama, black theatre and political drama (notably *Half the Picture*, staging the Scott inquiry).

**‘We feel that the regeneration of any neighbourhood can be led by the arts’**

limestone structure. The gala evening features nothing less than the British premiere of *The Negotiator*, starring Samuel L. Jackson and Kevin Spacey. This glamorous inauguration is a triumph for the venue, for Nicolas Kent, its artistic director of 14 years, and we might say, for the good people of Kilburn themselves.

Kent had the idea for the new development only three years ago, walking along the street. There used to be five cinemas on the High Road — one of which, the State, was once Europe's largest. And then, in an era of falling audiences and spreading bingo halls, there were none.

The Tricycle stands next to a funeral parlour which recently changed hands. Kent inquired about the yard which was used to park the hearses. Why not build a cinema there and, at a leap, increase the Tricycle's value to its community? A speculative idea soon became a viable business proposition. Kent turned to Emma Thompson, a local resident who has helped the Tricycle's fundraising activities in the past. She banged the drum in Hollywood, and with spectacular results: Schwarzenegger,



Finishing touches going on Kilburn's new Tricycle Cinema: Schwarzenegger, Gibson, Hanks and Hoffman are among the stars who have chipped in

Hanks, Gibson and Hoffman have all given money, and Kent persuaded a number of British film and theatre personalities to pitch in as well. Their largesse has allowed the Tricycle to stake its part of the £3 million budget for the project, though most of the funding (some £2.38 million) comes from the lottery.

The architect is Tim Foster, who designed the rebuilt Tricycle after it was destroyed by a fire in 1987. "He's got a tremendous visual imagination," Kent enthuses, as he points to the elegant butterfly roof, the stainless steel finishes and the

sandstone floor. The interior design, he says, not without reason, is "cool but long-lasting and sensational; everything's kept very simple, very stylish, substantial."

You might say the same of the new cinema's programming, which bears the marks of Kent's speciality: connecting the arts with local people. "This is the most multicultural community in Europe," he says. "Ninety languages are spoken in this borough. We've decided to concentrate on one main film each week, but it will be a good independent movie. We won't be showing

*Terminator 1 to 3*. In addition, Saturday lunchtimes will be devoted to family films, to tie in with children's shows in the theatre in the morning and afternoon. Asian movies will be shown in a "Bollywood" slot on Sunday lunchtimes. Later on Sunday the cinema will show subtitled films. And Thursday afternoons will be for black-and-white classics.

"We're going to do an Irish film festival, inevitably," says Kent. "Michael Hannigan of the Cork Film Festival is going to programme it for us. We will also have some black film seasons, and I'm hoping to

hold an African-Caribbean festival fairly soon."

The cinema shares a bar with the theatre, but Kent intends the different parts of the building to "cross-fertilise" in other ways too. In the new year he will direct *The Colour of Justice*, a reconstruction of the Stephen Lawrence inquiry, edited by Richard Norton-Taylor (who adapted the Scott Inquiry). "I hope that people who see, for instance, *The Negotiator*, might well then say: 'Ah, you're doing the Lawrence inquiry. We've never been to the theatre, but we'll certainly come to that!'"

At which point other Kentish good ideas come into play. The Tricycle pioneered "pay what you can" evenings. These are now sponsored by *Loot* (the free ads newspaper based along the road in Kilburn) to the tune of £9,000 a year, and the paper has committed another £10,000 to back a similar scheme in the new cinema.

Meanwhile Kent has introduced the Tricycle Club Card for young people (aged 14 to 26) resident in the borough (Brent). The card lets its holder see a film or play on any weekday evening for £2 and £1.50 respectively, courtesy of a grant

from the Arts Council's Arts for Everyone scheme.

"What's interesting is that they book and then turn up," says Kent. "There's no difference between having a Gold Card and having this sort of card. Well, there is one difference: you don't pay in advance with this."

Like some urban Robin Hood, he gives to the poor with one hand and takes from the rich with the other. Hollywood stars are not the only people to back the Tricycle. Cameron Mackintosh has endowed a rehearsal room in the new development. The Cohen Charitable Trust has given £30,000 towards the Paint Box, a visual arts studio which will be used by an artist in residence working with 12 selected schoolchildren — to see, says

All roads lead to North London for Thursday's gala

Kent, whether Kilburn can produce "the next Hockney".

And it comes as little surprise to discover that Kent is a member of the Kilburn Partnership, an initiative established by Brent and Camden councils to "do something" about the polluted, dingy High Road. "It's a question of providing facilities for people, making the road look more beautiful, making transport easier, making it safer."

"Business people are as enthusiastic as everyone else about it being arts-led, which is great. We feel that regeneration can come through the arts." Even the Victorian railway bridge is to be repainted by Railtrack to designs by the theatre designer Ralph Koltai.

Kent points to other entitlements. "The nightlife is amazing here," he says. "It's very like Manhattan in many ways: it has that terrific buzz." Eyebrows may rise at this claim — except that Kent has said whimsical things in the past and, lo, they become reality. Kilburn, the new Manhattan? That would be worth the traffic jam.

Tricycle Cinema details: 0171-372 6611. Tricycle Theatre box office: 0171-328 1000

### WHETHER through miscalculation or sheer accident, P.J. Crook became associated early in her career with that rather worrying breed of sophisticatedly naive artists, those who pretend to be much simpler than they are for the sake of cuteness. In her latest show, though, there is little that is cute and much that is cutting. What she paints are mostly everyday scenes: of commuters walled behind their newspapers, of crowded lunch counters, of people at race-tracks or in fairgrounds or dancing. The colours are pastel and the details often fanciful, but this time there are hardly any out-and-out fantasies — only one angel and one room with a zebra at the door. Even when such characters occur, they are validated by being locked into a personal reality of the surrealist kind. Theo Waddington. Sa Cork Street, W1 (0171-584 0667), until Dec 12

WILL MACLEAN is another artist who has been accused of wilful naivety. In his case it is no doubt to do with his allegiance to a school of genuinely untutored artists (Alfred Wallis, Ben Nicholson and Christopher Wood) whose work is associated with the sea, and the flotsam and jetsam thrown up on our shores. He does sometimes use (or appears to use) found objects from the seashore, but they are always carved and painted, and assembled into mostly small, icon-like works, benefiting from his strong and subtle sense of how simple elements like hooks and bones and feathers can be juxtaposed to achieve complex results. Art First, 9 Cork Street, W1 (0171-734 0366), until Nov 26.

IN THE 1960s Phillip King was one of the most prominent figures in new British sculpture. More recently he has tended to stand a little back, to the extent of becoming almost reclusive. But that does not mean he has been inactive. His show of new sculpture is full of wayward invention. Most of the pieces are smallish, free-standing, and the first impression is that you can hardly guess what they are made of. One at least is of cast aluminium, but visually it is not distinguishable from the mixtures of wood, metal, ceramic, plastic and paper which lend itself to moulding. The titles are whimsical and enigmatic, but the creative energy is potent. Bernard Jacobson. 14 Cliford Street, W1 (0171-495 8575) until Nov 26

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

**T**he Cape Town-born drummer Louis Moholo and the American trumpeter Lester Bowie are both great musical spark plugs. Each is justly revered not only as a crucial energising presence at the heart of — in Moholo's case — the London jazz scene in the late 1960s and 1970s, and — in Bowie's — that of Chicago in the same period, but also as a musician with ears wide open to all manner of contemporary sounds and the versatility to add his own contribution to them.

## More at home alone

JAZZ  
Lester Bowie/Louis Moholo  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

of the Art Ensemble of Chicago as to the witty avant-pop of his Brass Fantasy.

Their initial performance as a duo, however, immediately set alarm bells ringing. It seems somewhat illogical, even perverse, to criticise what was essentially improvised

music for being under-rehearsed. But, in their slow musical circling of each other — Moholo alternately patting and rumbling while Bowie interspersed snatches of strident melody with his customary smears, spurts and grunts — there were few signs that they had ever discussed common ground, let alone worked out a means of occupying it. The arrival on stage of the orchestra's vocalist, Francine Luce, with a non-verbal repertoire of shrieks, sighs, growls and bursts of scat, plus a selection of calls and the odd quotation, added numerous welcome extra textures to the overall sound, but did little to clarify the music.

The presence of the entire ensemble in the concert's second half — a row of percussionists playing talking drums, all manner of hand drums, chimes, and rattles, plus saxophonist Jason Yarde, marimba player Orphi Robinson and a keyboard/electric bass rhythm section — again promised at least textural and dynamic variety, but it was not forthcoming. Individual drum sounds and textures were indistinguishable in the disorganised, galumphing free-for-all that ensued, and the sudden hectoring recitation of a litany of oddly ill-associated names — Desmond Tutu, Ella Fitzgerald, Steve Biko and Billie Holiday among them — struck a note of incongruity rather than making the sociopolitical point that it was clearly intended to make.

There was the odd flash, in the encore somewhat puzzlingly demanded by a vociferous audience, of Bowie's musical wit at last finding some point of contact with Moholo's fiercely energetic drumming, but it was too little, too late.

## Cut off in his prime

POP  
Rufus Wainwright  
Sound Republic

It all started so promisingly. For almost an hour Rufus Wainwright entertained us with his lush and loathe show tones before a jobsworth, marched onstage and told him he had five minutes left. So he sang *Foolish Love* (it's seven minutes long and I'm going to play it real slow," he declared) and then the microphones were disconnected — before Wainwright had left the stage. Paving customers were ordered to leave, and found themselves on the pavement of Leicester Square at 10.30 on a Saturday night.

It was a disastrous advert for London's newest rock venue. On the way out I asked the manager for an explanation: was it a security problem or a licensing requirement? Not at all. The club had another booking at 11pm, she explained, adding that Wainwright's announced at his treatment was the behavior of a prima donna. Despite its prime location in Leicester Square, Sound Republic will surely soon find itself out of business if it continues to treat audiences and artists in such a cavalier fashion.

In his meagre hour, Wainwright proved why his self-titled debut album has been critically acclaimed. There is simply nobody in contemporary pop quite like him. The son of respected folkies Loudon Wainwright and Kate McGarrigle, he has eschewed following in their musical footsteps and instead embraced the world of 1930s musicals, with George Gershwin and Cole Porter as his reference points.

get a hit, else mother is going to be upset," he quipped when introducing his sister.

And then he was gone. Wainwright's evening was completed when the two nearest pubs barred their doors to him as it was by now the late, late hour of 10.50pm. Who could blame him if he declined to play sleepy London town again?

IN THE early 1980s, Bauhaus were one of Britain's most revered cult bands. Pioneering a raw post-punk sound as spiky and jagged as their checkered hair, this enigmatic Northampton quartet enjoyed four prolific years of fringe success before disbanding in 1983. But this summer, after 15 years of silence and obscure solo projects, the band reunited for a clutch of low-key American dates. Their reception was warm, but it scarcely anticipated the hysteria which greeted the first of two packed shows at London's Brixton Academy on Saturday night.

Even now, with a white raft of their 1980s peers on the comeback trail, Bauhaus still look and sound impressively ageless and original. Their tribal beats and abrasively detuned guitars may have been absorbed into the common grammar of pop, but there was little evidence of post-modern nostalgia. The band's singer Peter Murphy might still owe a heavy debt to David Bowie, but he never lapses

into self-parody during an electrifying 90-minute set.

Perhaps because Bauhaus were always more of a cult than a mainstream band, the show lacked the crowd-pleasing consensus of a greatest hits package. It balanced melodramatic singles including *She's in Parties* and *The Passion of Lovers* against the howling ballad *Hollow Hills* and the disco-tinged howl of *Kick in the Eye*. But the most rapturous reaction was reserved for savage cover versions of Marc Bolan's *Telegram Sum* and Bowie's *Ziggy Stardust*.

Bauhaus are reminders of an era when experimentation and performance art were part of pop's staple diet. But even their most self-consciously theatrical number, *Bela Lugosi's Dead*, proved more fascinating for its primitive techno beat than for its grand guignol lyric about vampires and virgins. It provided a suitably histrionic climax to a triumphant evening of designer darkness.

STEPHEN DALTON

### BUILDING A LIBRARY

A guide to the best available recordings, in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

BRITTEN'S YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA  
Reviewed by Chris de Souza

BRITTEN composed *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* in 1946. A character piece, it rapidly established itself as a favourite in its own right, with its wit and resourceful exploitation of sound.

Leonard Bernstein (Sony Classical) tries to turn it into another *Pomp and Circumstance* March. Britten may have been celebrating Purcell's 250th anniversary, but pompous this music isn't. With the LSO (Decca) Britten floats the phrases of Purcell's tune like vaulted arches. Britten's recording is an inspired teacher in observing the composer's intentions. Vintage playing, literally — recorded in 1964 — the quality of sound is now more or less a thing of the past. Britten was an expert orchestrator and wrote brilliantly for each instrument. He did not demand the impossible, but you do need players who are on the ball.

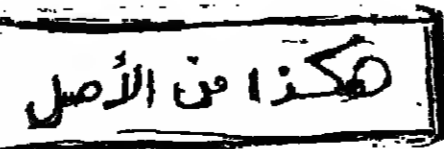
Neville Martin (BIS) pushes the Bergen Philharmonic beyond its capability, and does not give due weight to the score. If you want spoken narration, Dorati and the Royal Philharmonic (London) boast Sean Connery as narrator, and a characterful job he makes of it. Bernstein has the passages designed for voice-over, but carelessly hasn't provided a voice.

The inimitable Dame Edna Everage (Naxos) points out the disadvantage of the text — the orchestra has to live up to it. The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra under John Lanchbery is fine as far as it goes, but I wouldn't describe their cellos as "gorgeous". Dame Edna is, though, and the recording is worth having for her alone.

Sir Charles Groves's 1977 recording with the RLPO (EMI) is acceptable, but the lower strings lack weight and the brass and percussion variations lack edge. Dorati's willful approach isn't softened by the rather shrill balance. As for the New York Phil, things get steadily more hard driven.

Please order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCORN1, Forres, A. S. O. B. or phone 0345 023 486; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk. Next Saturday on Radio 3 (11am): Beethoven's Ghost Piano Trio

BBC Symphony Orchestra  
In Memoriam  
Thursday 12 November, 7.30  
Royal Festival Hall  
Britten Ballad of Heroes  
Vaughan Williams  
Symphony No.3 'Pastoral'  
Howells Hymnus Paradisi  
Richard Hickox conductor  
Joan Rodgers soprano  
Anthony Rolfe-Johnson tenor  
BBC Symphony Chorus  
All seats £11 (concessions £6)  
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Visions of country living: in *La Meridienne*, painted in 1866, Millet's snoozing harvesters take their noonday repose in a softly lit landscape. In his more challenging version, *Siesta*, Van Gogh's pair seem less protected from the glare of the sun

# Vincent's sincere flattery

Of all the artists who revolutionised Western painting in the late 19th century, Van Gogh might seem the most headlong. But his audacious originality was underpinned by a profound respect for the past. Rembrandt, Delacroix and Van Gogh's own teacher, Anton Mauve, were among the artists he venerated. His favourite, though, remained to the end of his life Jean-François Millet. And a revelatory exhibition devoted to his love of Millet is now, with epic queues clogging the Musée d'Orsay to see it, the overnight hit of the season in Paris.

When Van Gogh suddenly decided to abandon his native Holland for Paris in 1868, Millet had been dead for just over a decade. But his paintings of French country life were widely popular, and a retrospective survey of Millet's work reinforced Van Gogh's admiration. Having already painted the impoverished miners and weavers of his own country, he respected Millet's commitment to peasant scenes. Defying the orthodox belief that workers on the land were not a worthy subject for high art, Millet was regarded in conservative quarters as a dangerous radical. But his emphasis on the toughness of peasant labour, especially in the unusual grimace of *The Man with the Hoe*, reflected his fatalism rather than

any incendiary political convictions. Van Gogh, an evangelical pastor's son whose early years were dominated by intense religious beliefs, shared Millet's dedication to the natural world. And after he turned south, finding his boldest voice in the heat and light of Provence, Van Gogh turned to Millet again and again. The Musée d'Orsay exhibition displays the two men's paintings and graphic work side by side, concentrating above all on the Millet images Van Gogh chose to copy. The firmness of his interpretations might have made Millet's originals look tame. If anything, though, the older man survives this high-risk encounter with his reputation enhanced.

Van Gogh's versions prompt us to look again at images as over-familiar as Millet's 1850 painting of *A Sower*, and appreciate their raw vigour. Nothing could be more durable than the gaunt, big-boned peasant who strides across the shadowy furrows, battling to ensure that his seeds lodge in the cold earth. Van Gogh paid homage to this archetypal figure in a number of versions,

not all as powerful as Millet's. But in 1888 he finally managed to transform his source by placing his sower against a blaring Provencal sun, more exuberant by far than Millet's gloomy canvas.

In 1899 Van Gogh produced an extended series of small canvases, each containing a peasant scene based directly on Millet. Shown in Paris on the same wall as the pictures that inspired them, they make an absorbing comparison. Millet's quiet, meditative dignity becomes charged with rugged vitality in Van Gogh's versions, where labourers attack the corn with astonishing energy. Their thick contours and flaring colours make Millet appear subdued, but he retains an authentic, heartfelt poetry of his own.

In the end, though, Van Gogh offers a more challenging vision of the countryside. Millet's image of two harvesters snoozing under a haystack is a tender scene, empha-

sizing noonday repose in an untrodden, softly lit landscape. But Van Gogh's version, *Siesta*, is far less consoling. Although the two figures remain asleep, they seem less protected from the blaze of the merciless blue sky. It irradiates the cornfield so fiercely that the haystacks appear on the point of catching fire.

Two early panels, an *Allegory* and *A Maiden's Dream*, are suffused with a lyrical awareness of life's mystery and melancholy. The evident influence of Bellini may help to explain why Lotto found scant employment in Venice itself. But as he obtained commissions elsewhere, in cities like Jesi, Recanati and Ancona, a more individual personality becomes apparent.

It conveys a restless, often troubled vision. The agonised St Jerome lurches across the canvas in an impulsive diagonal, ready to bear himself with the stone gripped in his hand. The Christ child threatens to topple off the Virgin's lap as he lunges towards St Catherine, eager to place a ring on her finger in a mystic marriage. Lotto counters this unease by orchestrating his religious paintings with brilliant, sensual colours, at their finest as seductive as Titian. The *Virgin and Child with Saints Catherine and*

Thomas, on loan from Vienna, is an exceptionally beguiling image. Executed in the late 1520s, when Lotto was at his most assured, it must be among the loveliest European paintings of the period.

Friend of Degas and teacher of Matisse, Gustave Moreau was no enemy of originality in art. But he became, after his initial success in the Paris salons of the 1890s, utterly removed from Impressionism and its successors. By the time he died in 1898, Moreau had retreated into an intensely private world steeped in complex allusions to religion and mythology. It gives his exhibition at the Grand Palais a feverish fascination, filled with macabre fantasies and a *fin-de-siècle* emphasis on sacrificial doom.

The bizarre side of his imagination surfaced early, in a large painting of *Oedipus and the Sphinx* which caused a furore at the 1864 Salon. A full-breasted young woman, the winged creature is attached limpet-like to Oedipus's semi-naked body. With one hind leg thrust

into his groin, the sphinx gives the picture a strong sense of erotic provocation. But Moreau's handling is tight, linear and indebted at this stage to Ingres. The preliminary studies displayed here demonstrate formidable powers of draughtsmanship, and only later does Moreau's attitude to paint become bolder.

It emerges at first in small canvases, like the marvellously free and romantic image of a rider hurtling across an empty plain. Even more daring than Delacroix, the picture is dominated by a sky alive with astonishing broken brushstrokes. But by the time he tackled his most notorious subject, *Salome*, Moreau was prepared to display his more experimental impulses on the grand scale.

The increasingly obsessive Moreau makes his nearest British equivalent, Burne-Jones, seem anaemic by comparison. But he is guilty of atrocious overworking in his final *tour de force*, a cluttered composition called *Jupiter and Semele*. Unlike his graphic work, this looming nightmare of a painting proves that the elderly Moreau did not know when to stop.

● Millet/Van Gogh is at the Musée d'Orsay (00 331 40394814) until Jan 3 (closed Mon). Lorenzo Lotto at the Grand Palais (00 331 4131717) until Jan 11 (closed Tues). Gustave Moreau at the Grand Palais until Jan 4

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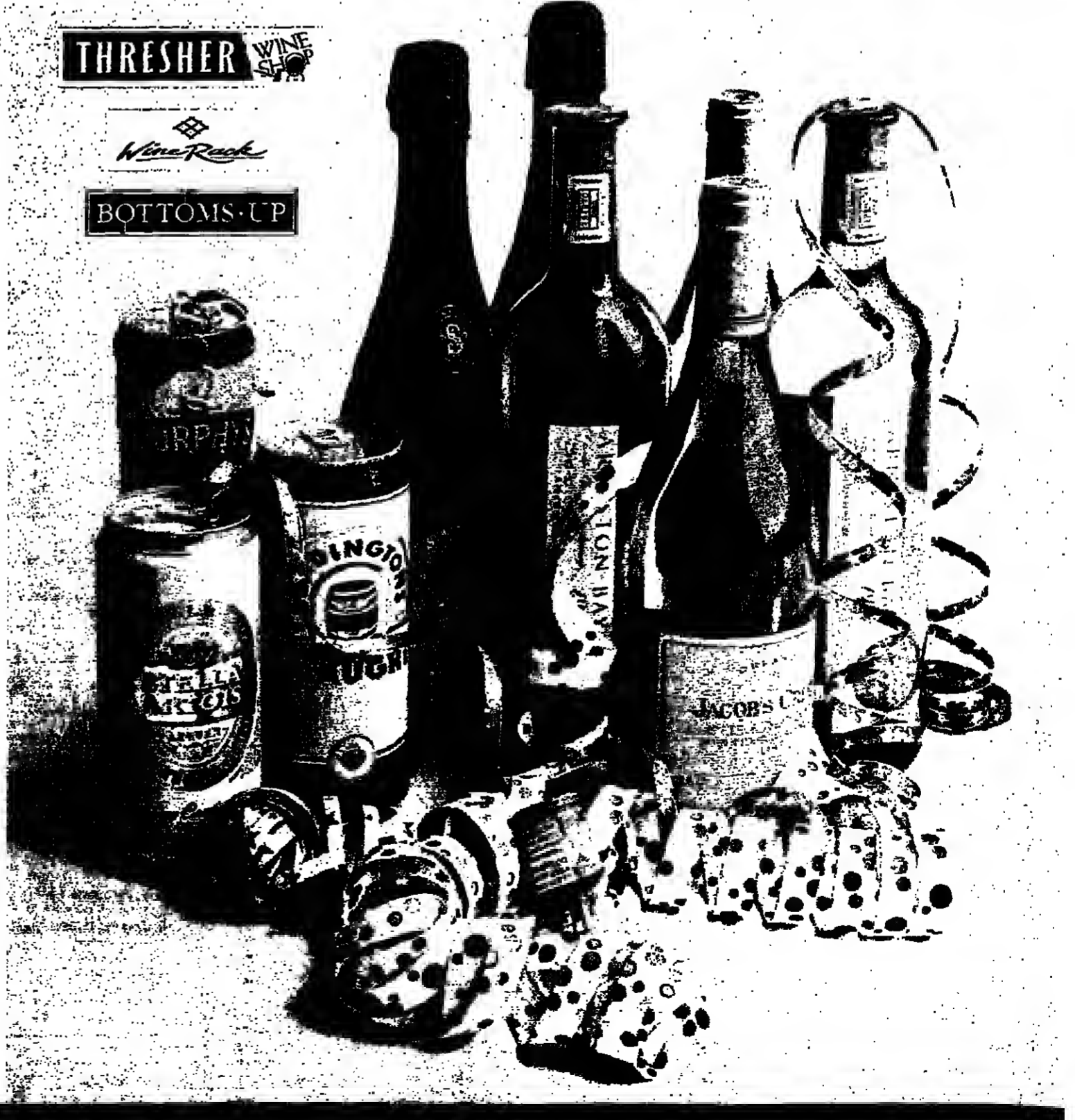
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LISTINGS

Olaf Bär in Bath

ARTS

MUSIC

Celebrating Grainger

Salute to Percy

And are there Lamingtons still for tea? Those tempting little Australian mountains of coconut had all vanished by the time I arrived at St John's. They had doubtless been wolfed down by the most deserving of those who had stayed the course from a Saturday morning of Country Gardens and The Gumsuckers' March to the Kneller Hall Band; to a demonstration of the Kangaroo Pouch Free Music Machine; to the first, crackling London performance of Ride with an Idle Whip; through to a six-hand piano version of the undanceable, virtually unhearable pro-ballet score, The Warriors.

RECOMMENDED TODAY

LONDON MUCH ADO ABOUT EVERYTHING: Jackie Mason's new one-man show brings a sharp eye and a cutting tongue to the current scene. Playhouse (0171-899 4402). Tonight, 8pm. Until November 21. (S)

ELSEWHERE

BATH: The renowned German baritone Olaf Bär provides this year's vocal interlude at the Mozart Festival. He gives a recital of Lieder by Mozart, Schumann, Brahms and Schubert. Royal Opera House (01225 463362). Tonight, 7.30pm.

NEW WEST END SHOWS

CRIMES OF THE HEART: Amanda Bower plays one of the three sisters in Beth Henley's Pulitzer Prize-winning family drama, revived by David Gilmore. King's Head (0171-226 1918). (S)



Not waving but drowning: Paul Kemp and Amanda Royle in Terrence McNally's gripping journey of self-discovery

Grinding to a halt

One man moving his hand in the pool, one man turning a page of the Herald Tribune, one woman painting the landscape, one woman bringing coffee from the house — and all performing these actions so very slowly that when the aching sweetness from Cool Jan tuete draws towards its close, and the gestures slowly quicken to normal speed, it is as though a spell that has caught us all, both them and us, is gently lifting.

CONCERTS

Grainger Festival at St John's

Rural worthies, unsung but for Grainger's zeal, such as Joseph Taylor of Saxby-All Saints, Samuel Stokes of Retford and John Perring of Dartford, were celebrated in settings of the songs they sang to him. Brig Fair, The British Waterside, Shallow Brown, here Grainger's piano writing, most eloquently played by Thwaites, would wander in those unique harmonic knottings which set the artless beauty of the melodies into rich relief. And particularly so in the voice of tenor James Gilchrist. It was just a pity that the programme book contained no song texts. For with the overdone regional accenting of Stephen Varcoe, and the shrill histrionics of Della Jones, both verbal and musical language often became dreadfully blurred.

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

ANTZ (PG): Neutronic ant finds himself in a wild world, ingenuously computer-generated animation, matched to the voice of Woody Allen, Sharon Stone and Sylvester Stallone.

THEATRE

THE PETER HALL COMPANY: The Royal National Theatre Production. THE INVENTION OF LOVE. Directed by Richard Eyre. BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR. Evening Standard Drama Award. THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA. Directed by Harold Prince. NOW IN ITS 10th YEAR.

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# LAW



Employers who disregard human rights laws can be sued if they have a UK base, which may reduce the number of mining disasters in South Africa

## How Britain can stop exploitation overseas

### Multinational companies with a British base can now be sued here, says Frances Gibb

Edward Connelly has been unable to work for the past 12 years. He has throat cancer and his larynx has been removed. Speaking is a struggle, almost as much as that for compensation against his former employer. Once a maintenance fitter, Mr Connelly now lives near Glasgow. But from 1977 to 1982, he worked for the Rio Tinto Zinc group of companies, at the Rossing uranium mine near Swakopmund in Namibia.

There he worked with primary ore crushers, huge hydraulic hammers that smash uranium ore into fragments. His job, carried out in a cloud of uranium dust, was to repair them when they broke down. He believes that radioactive dust he breathed while working there caused his cancer, and has lodged a £400,000 damages claim. Four years later, he is little nearer having his claim decided, although the case went all the way to the House of Lords. The issue was whether he could bring the claim at all. The law lords' ruling by four to one broke new legal ground. They ruled, despite strong opposition from Rio Tinto, that a UK base could be sued in the courts here. The principle is important: it means that when workers are unable to sue a transnational company abroad, either through lack of funds or because the company there has no assets and so can provide

no redress, they can sue the UK parent company.

Richard Meeran, a solicitor with Leigh Day & Co who brought the case, says: "Transnationals have always hidden behind their subsidiaries and legally it has been hard to make them accountable. There have been notorious examples of gross behaviour by such companies — take Union Carbide in Bhopal. They have always argued that they do not owe any duty to people affected by their overseas operations. So the Lords ruling sets an important precedent."

Two other recent cases involving claims by South African workers invoke the same principle: one against Thor Chemical Holdings, which last year reached an out-of-court settlement worth £1.3 million with 20 workers who claimed they had been poisoned by mercury at a Thor subsidiary in Cato Ridge, KwaZulu/Natal. The other involves Cape plc, formerly the Cape Asbestos Company Ltd. It was involved in mining blue and brown asbes-

tos in the North Western Cape and Northern provinces from 1890 until 1979. The Court of Appeal gave the go-ahead to claims lodged by three workers, arguing that the international nature of the company's operations meant they were firmly based in England and pointing out that the company no longer had any links with South Africa. Cape has petitioned the Lords.

Mr Meeran, who acted in all three cases, says that the courts "delivered a salutary warning to the commercial world and indicated willingness on the part of the English courts to protect human rights in preference to commercial interests".

Mr Connelly hopes that his claim can now proceed. But in a new move, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, is suggesting legislation to stop such claims. Officials say that this case has paved the way for litigants who have no connection with England to bring potentially costly claims. A letter has been sent to the Law Society, Bar and others arguing that neither Mr Connelly, nor

the claim, "had any connection with England". The claim was brought, it says, "because the plaintiff was not able to fund an action in Namibia, but could do so in England, through legal aid or a conditional fee (no win, no fee)".

Lord Hoffmann, the law lord who gave the dissenting judgment in Connelly, is concerned that the ruling undermines the principle that litigation should be kept out of the English courts.

But lawyers and academics strongly oppose legislation. Dan Brennan, QC, a leading personal injuries lawyer, says: "Is the Labour Government really siding with multinationalals against black workers with potential negligence claims? Companies that set up abroad with local labour should use the same safety standards as elsewhere. 'Are workers treated negligently to be denied the right to sue in the company's home country, when the profits of those companies come here?'"

Mr Meeran argues that such cases do have clear links with England. "In the Connelly case, the company was actually based here — so what is this all about? If it is about saving taxpayers' money, the point is that this case so far

English courts are willing to protect human rights'

## Why I won't be drinking to the new licensing laws

It is starting to dawn on people what is likely to happen if and when responsibility for liquor licensing is removed from the magistrates and handed over to local authorities. As if the increase in those "all-singing, all-dancing" public entertainment licences (PELs) were not bad enough, the prospect of adding "all-boozing" to them spells sleepless nights for millions.

As a magistrate, though not a licensing justice, I could be said to have an axe to grind. Yet, as an ordinary resident, I am already having to object to a local restaurant's request to stay open until 2am every weekday, as well as at weekends. If it obtains such a PEL licence, the next step will be an attempt to increase the liquor licensing hours.

At present, this has to go before the licensing justices. But if the report of the Better Regulation Task Force is accepted by the Government, the justices' powers will be given to local authorities. Never mind the fact that councils will then be both judge and jury rather than independent justices; it has to be said that since councils took over the administration of PELs, the cost of obtaining one has gone up hugely and there are wide variations in their cost.

According to a report in a trade journal, a London-based pub group pays £42 for a 400-capacity venue in one area of London and £4,600 for a 620-capacity venue in another. Are some of these councils merely trying to increase their revenue? Perish the thought — yet surely the fee should reflect the cost of obtaining the licence and no more. So what about the problems of local residents? If, as is suggested, we change the law to bring us into line with the Scottish system, the applicant will no longer have to prove there is a "need" for his liquor-selling premises. Instead, the boot will be on the other foot, leaving objectors having to prove that there is "over-provision" in the area. Considering that councils already hold planning and building powers, ordinary people are going to have their work cut out to stop it.

Even those specialist licensing lawyers have far more problems with local authorities than with the local justices. Applications for big, one-off events can sometimes be left until the last minute. In one case, it took three months to get an appointment for a public entertainment licence and in another case the



PAULA DAVIES

barrister concerned was stuck in licensing sessions until 2 am. So what, you might say. Far more important, however, is the fact that justices do not hear applications when there is any conflict of interest. Local authorities will never be in such a position given their existing powers, and it is possible that they may vote on party lines.

I don't need to go into the possibilities of corruption, but apparently there are occasions when there is no hearing at all and just one official can make the decision.

Certainly, the Magistrates' Association, along with the Justices' Clerks' Society, would be delighted to have the licensing laws updated sensibly. And licensing justices should be prepared to co-operate with a national policy so that there is no more fragmentation over procedural matters. At present, only one licence is given to a business, although there can be more than one name on it.

It might be more sensible — given the growth of large drinks businesses — for justices to be able to grant two or three. Personally, I can't see why justices would object to making the issuing of licences simpler. It does not seem unreasonable to allow people who are moving from one district to another to carry on their business without having to reapply for a new licence, although they obviously need to show sufficient experience.

Anne Norton, chairman of the licensing committee of the Magistrates' Association, says: "The confidence of licensing justices would be enhanced by a mandatory basic qualification such as the National Licences Certificate, which would enable the licences to become truly portable."

A lot of what is suggested by the task force makes sense, even though residents will no doubt be extremely wary about semi-permanent opening hours for clubs and pubs. The thought of that "all-singing, all-dancing" racket going on just around the corner must give them the shudders.

But in the end I think that the members of the task force must be more than a little naive. Can they really believe that the change from magistrates to local authorities will, in the words of the task force chairman, "improve transparency and accountability"? If that happens, the drinks are on me.

*The author is an Inner London magistrate.*

IS CHERIE BOOTH, QC, backing Kamlesh Bahl as a future leader of the solicitors' profession? Last week Ms Booth told the Association of Women Solicitors: "We in the Bar can be proud that we have achieved the first woman leader of our profession, although it will not be long before women solicitors achieve the same."

Ms Bahl, deputy vice-president of the Law Society, leaves her post chairing the Equal Opportunities Commission shortly to concentrate on Law Society activities. Ms Booth noted that women were still a minority in the legal profession. But she cautioned that the way forward was not for women to ape men. "We must never fall into the trap of agreeing that the only way that a woman can be a success in the law is to act as a man."

THE LEGAL AID BOARD, criticised for late payments to lawyers for legal aid work, should be covered by the Government's Late Payments of Commercial

## Legal DIARY

Debts (Interest) Act, the Law Society says. Solicitors often have to wait months, sometimes years, for work done on legal aid and in some cases are taxed on it before they have been paid. Michael Matthews, Law Society President, says: "The Government often urges the solicitors' profession to be more businesslike, arguing that the legal aid scheme should be treated in the same way as a commercial purchaser of legal services. Perhaps the Government should apply this logic to its behaviour."

GEOFF HOON'S desire to leave the Lord Chancellor's Department and move upwards in the Government is an open secret. At the last reshuffle Lord Irvine of Lairg's deputy was put on standby to replace Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General — and was made a Minister of State when Mr Robinson kept his job.

All this manoeuvring has clearly amused Edward Garnier, QC, the Tory legal affairs spokesman. "I congratulate the minister on his promotion in the last Government," he said, during Mr Hoon's first Question Time since the government reshuffle. "And I offer him my congratulations on his inability to extricate himself from the grip of the Lord Chancellor."

A SURVEY of 482 expert witnesses conducted by the witness training company Bond Solon has found little enthusiasm for acting on a "no win, no fee" basis. Nearly 90 per cent did not think they should be allowed to work using this method and 67 per cent said they would not do so, even if allowed. Mark Solon, the director, said the results also showed anxiety that if witnesses worked under such arrangements, it would threaten their independence.

BLACK LAWYERS will be given tips on good interview techniques when applying to law firms at the annual conference of the African, Caribbean and Asian Lawyers' Group on Saturday. The meeting, chaired by Stephen Friday of Percy Short & Cuthbert, will be held in London. Details: Yvonne Cummings 0171-320 5873.

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**celebrating Grains**

**ute to Perc**

**CONCERTS**

**Grainier Festival**

**Smith Square**

Rural worthies, including Joseph Taylor of the Saints, Samuel Sainsbury and John Perkins, were celebrated in the songs of the Waterside. Station is most eloquently played by these unique harmonica players which set the scene for the evening. And perhaps in the voice of Peter Jones, it was just a programme that failed to do justice to the talents of Stephen Varcoe, a 'still' historian of the most eloquent and dramatic of languages. One of Grains' settings, a musical called 'Habib', made a second appearance Sunday night, and a song called 'Grains' was the highlight of the evening. This concert was held at the Phoenix Room, and a new musical, 'Grains', was performed for the first time. It was a truly memorable evening.

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No longer a law unto their own: on a five-day visit to China, Tony Blair at Tiananmen Square with Zhu Rongji, China's Prime Minister. Now each major city has a private law firm

# China bows to legal evolution

China is showing a growing commitment to the rule of law. This is an optimistic statement to make about a country with such a lamentable record, but there is real evidence that China is taking significant steps towards legal reform.



**British lawyers and the UK Government are leading the People's Republic along the road to justice, says Helena Kennedy, QC**

Last month I was in Beijing for British Law Week — a series of seminars, workshops and the re-enactment of a mock trial — organised by the British Council and the Chinese Ministry of Justice to coincide with a visit by Tony Blair and his wife, Cherie Booth, QC. The aim was to bring together British and Chinese lawyers to build understanding of the British legal systems.

Chinese Ministry of Justice. The seminars came hot on the heels of China's signature of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights just days before the law week began. No doubt grand gestures make good public relations in the face of international attention, but progress in other areas of legal reform suggests that genuine commitment to implementing the convention will continue even when the focus has shifted elsewhere.

Not surprisingly, the upheaval caused by the shift to an adversarial system, where the prosecution must prove its case before a judge, is considerable. Lawyers, judges and police need retraining and this will take time. At the start of the 1990s, nearly all lawyers in the People's Republic were employed by the State. Now each major city has private law firms and there is a thirst for information about setting up partnerships and about the business administration of legal practices.

Leading figures, including Lord Justice Otton; Robin Booth, Assistant Chief Crown Prosecutor; Heather Haller, who chairs the Bar Council of England and Wales; Phillip Sycamore, immediate past President of the Law Society; and Ann Owens of Justice, led discussion on subjects ranging from contract and commercial law to criminal procedure, international conventions and human rights.

In 1997 China implemented radical revisions to its Criminal Procedure Law and criminal codes. These revisions introduced for the first time an adversarial approach to criminal trials, a presumption of innocence, and limitations to the length of time a suspect can be held without charge. Robert Seabrook, QC, played an important role in advising the Chinese Government on these reforms, and reference was made to British laws.

Other areas of prime interest in the commercial field are privatisation, or "share-isation" as the Chinese prefer to call it, inward investment into the United Kingdom and issues relating to insurance. The concept of insurance in China is also rapidly expanding. The scope of the law has grown from insurance

of physical property to insurance against liabilities — an issue close to the hearts of the increasing number of private legal practitioners, even though indemnity insurance is not yet compulsory. Last April the first operating licence was granted to Royal & Sun Alliance, an English insurance company.

There is a bleaker side to economic liberalisation. Unemployment and marital breakdown are growing. Women make up the majority of those who have been laid off from the state-owned enterprises that have been downsizing.

In the past decade there has been an explosion in juvenile criminal cases. In 1994 there were well over a million registered cases — 65 per cent of all crime. The average age of first offenders is dropping and the number of female offenders is on the rise. According to a report by the Gong An (Public Security) University, male to female offending before the Cultural Revolution was 100:1. Now it is 10:1.

Greater populations in the cities have increased crime rates and new types of crimes are being committed, including car crime, drugs, computer and credit-card fraud, gun crimes and prostitution. The number of offences attracting the death penalty remains alarmingly high. British organisations are again

playing a role in working to understand the problems. The Seaman Centre at Leicester University is conducting an extensive study of juvenile crime, and the British Council is working with Chinese women's organisations to increase knowledge of women's rights, violence against women and the avenues open for legal redress and protection.

Plans for the future include the extension of the Young Lawyers Training Scheme funded by the Department for International Development and a new programme of training in Britain for young Chinese judges. There will also be further training in China for practising lawyers on commercial law.

Organisations such as the British Council will continue to nurture links between British and Chinese lawyers, and encourage young Chinese professionals to study and work in Britain, and more senior practitioners to draw on wider experience. Unlike other episodes in China's history, the move towards legal reform is evolutionary rather than revolutionary. Our hope must be that progress is the more permanent for the gradual pace at which it is being won.

**Baroness Kennedy of The Shaws is a Labour peer.**

## When babies come after the environment

Are green issues more vital than safe toys, asks Justine Thornton

Who would have believed that the recent furore over the danger to children's health from toys would highlight the influence of environmental action groups in making environmental laws? It has also revealed that the European Community may arguably protect the environment more than its children.

Soft toys, such as teething rings and dolls, have been the centre of attention. They contain phthalates which are used to soften PVC. Children under three are particularly at risk because they tend to suck on the toys and their saliva reacts with chemicals alleged to cause kidney and liver damage, infertility and cancer.

Last July protesters from Greenpeace blockaded a chemical plant in The Netherlands, saying that the soft PVC plastic could be ingested by children and cause cancer. An EU scientific committee admits "cause for concern".

The European Commission is under increasing pressure from environmental and consumer groups to pass legislation to ban these toys. It is not proving easy to do so. It has taken more than two years to move to the possibility of legislation to restrict the use of phthalates. In 1996 government researchers expressed concern about phthalate levels in formula baby milk.

Greenpeace then began a campaign against their use in toys. In April last year the Danish Government recommended that certain toys be removed from sale and teething rings were withdrawn in Italy, Spain and Greece. Despite the evident concern, the European Commission cannot legislate to ban the toys because it still has to decide just how dangerous they are for children. Although numerous studies

have been carried out, there is no conclusive method of simulating how children chew on the toys. The Commission has been watching the outcome of tests where adults volunteered to suck on the toys. The results were published last week, but do not appear to have clarified matters.

The absence of conclusive scientific evidence linking an activity with damage to the environment is a common problem for legislators. Notwithstanding this, EU law allows for measures to protect the environment even when the extent of the danger is uncertain. This is on the basis that by the time the science is conclusive, the environment may have been irreparably damaged, or that the costs of putting right the damage may exceed the preventive costs. There is no equivalent principle to protect children using toys.

Greenpeace's campaign has been sophisticated. As well as direct action tactics, it has included scientific investigation and lobbying. In September last year Greenpeace published the results of its own tests on the phthalate levels in 71 toys. The results were discussed by the Scientific Committee advising the Commission.

Even the High Court has recognised Greenpeace's status, allowing the group to challenge a government decision on nuclear waste on the basis that "Greenpeace is an entirely responsible and respected body", although there are those in industry who would question this.

Concerned at the potential damage to its sales, the toy industry is now pushing for legislation to restrict the use of phthalates.

**The author, a barrister specialising in environmental law at Simmons & Simmons, is co-author of Environmental Law.**

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Penny Keatings, Edward Parry and Lucy Boyd will be on hand to discuss the vast array of opportunities available, and advise on career planning, salary expectations and market trends. All discussions will be conducted on a one to one basis and in complete confidence. All attendees will receive the Lipson Lloyd-Jones Essential Guide to Interviews and our Northern Salary Survey. In the meantime, the following is a mere taster of the many exciting opportunities available in the North East.

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**Ms Henrietta Hill & Mr. Thomas Coghlin**, who, having successfully completed their pupillages, became Tenants on 20th October 1998

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## 2 CROWN OFFICE ROW

The Chambers of John L. Powell QC are pleased to announce that

MICHAEL SOOLE (formerly of 5 Bell Yard) and SIAN MIRCHANDANI (after successfully completing her pupillage) and Professor ANDREW TETTENBORN (Bracton Professor of English Law at The University of Exeter) have accepted invitations to join chambers and that we will be moving at the end of 1999 to 4 New Square, Lincoln's Inn.

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## Senior IP Lawyer

The BPI is the trade association for record companies in the UK. It has over 200 members, numbering all the major record companies as well as many small independents and exists to protect their interests in all areas of their activity.



technical ability, you must be articulate and confident, able to communicate complex legal issues to lawyers and non-lawyers alike in a concise and persuasive manner. In-depth knowledge of the music industry is not a pre-requisite but you should be able to demonstrate a good understanding of the record business and related legal issues.

It now seeks to recruit a senior legal adviser to play a pivotal role in the organisation. Reporting to the Director General, you will advise on all the legal implications of the BPI's business and will be closely involved in lobbying UK and EU government representatives and liaising with senior executives within the record industry. Candidates should be solicitors or barristers with a minimum of 5 years' post qualification experience. First rate intellectual property experience, in particular copyright law, is essential. In addition to

The UK is at the centre of the international music scene and the BPI has a crucial part to play in helping to promote British artists and recording companies domestically and overseas. This position offers excellent exposure to a dynamic industry and the opportunity to play a significant role in setting the framework for the next millennium. An excellent remuneration package will reflect the importance placed on this appointment.

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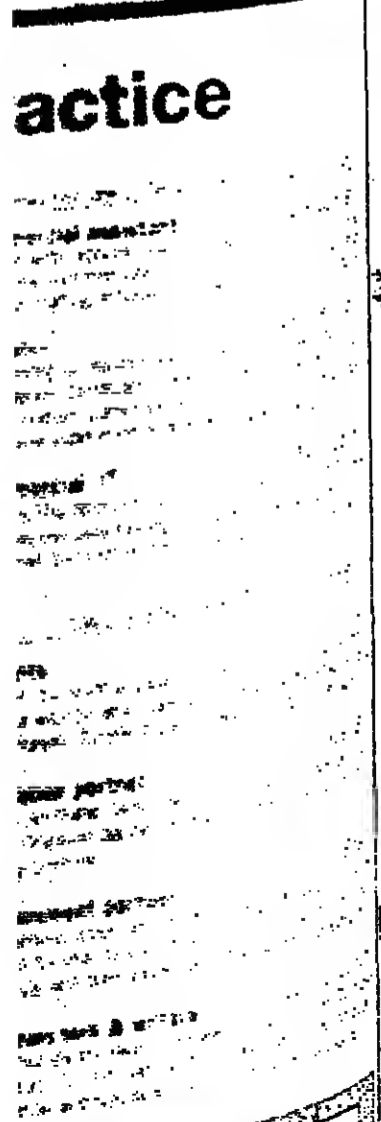
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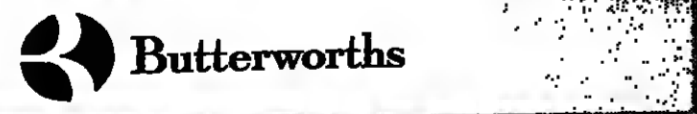
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Tel: 0171 797 8400 Fax: 0171 797 8401 Email: Clerks@6PumpCourt.co.uk Senior Clerk: Richard Constable

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Please contact Barbara Long for an information pack which includes an application form on 01603 285405. Should you require any further information please contact David Ratcliffe, the Justice's Clerk for Great Yarmouth & North Norfolk or Kevin Byrne, the Head of Legal Services for Great Yarmouth & North Norfolk on 01493 840000. Applications must be received by no later than the 28th November 1998. Interviews will be held on the 11th December 1998.

Martin Sale Justice's Clerk Executive Norfolk Magistrates' Courts Committee 4 Barton Way, Carrow Road, Norwich, NR1 1DL

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## Industry & private practice

### Directory researchers

We are now recruiting the new research team for next year's Chambers Guide. We are looking for qualified lawyers with an interest in researching and writing about the legal profession.

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To discuss the opportunities available, please call me direct on 0171 778 1824 for a confidential chat, or send me your CV.

Reena SenGupta, Editor

Our directory is available at £45 from 0171 778 1824. Tel: 0171 778 1824. Fax: 0171 778 1824.

### Industry

**Entertainment** West End  
Commercially minded solicitor or barrister, 3-4 years' ppe, to join legal department of major player in entertainment industry. Work will include M&A, i.e. financing & corporate and development work. Foreign languages useful.

**Commercial Lawyer** M4 corridor  
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**General counsel** Belgium  
Flemish speaker with proven management exp to become general counsel of existing legal dept of international hi-tech company. Prior exp of working in UK or US preferred.

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**EC/competition** Brussels  
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Sonya Rawner, Marianne Lewis, Deborah Kirkman, Stuart Morton

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**Commercial lawyer** City  
Solicitor, 1-4 years' ppe, to join successful high calibre legal department of major UK company. Diverse work includes joint-ventures, competition law, employment and IP.

David Woolston, Paul Thomas, Emma Ridley

**Financial services** London  
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**Employment** City  
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**Planning and environment** City  
Magic Circle firm with several leading practitioners seeks a sol with 0-5 yrs' ppe for planning appeals, PFI work and environmental aspects of cutting edge corp transactions.

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3-5 Years' PQE

Guildford, Surrey

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For further information, in complete confidence, please contact RICHARD GAWN on 0171 242 0303 or write to him at HUGHES-CASTELL, 87 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1BD. Confidential Fax: 0171 242 7111. E-mail: [richardg@legaloops.demon.co.uk](mailto:richardg@legaloops.demon.co.uk).

ERICSSON



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ICE HOCKEY

Britain give recall to Hand

By Our Sports Staff

TONY HAND, Britain's best home-bred player, has been included in a Great Britain development squad...

Manchester Storm recorded a Sekonda Superleague record with a 10-1 demolition of Newcastle Riverkings...

Ayr Scottish Eagles gained a psychological advantage over London Knights ahead of their semi-final first-leg with a 4-1 victory...

John Wynne overcame a bout of sickness to score the winning goal for Sheffield Steelers as they came back from 2-0 down to record a 3-2 win over Nottingham Panthers...

John Hopkins finds the young hero of the Open still in positive mood



Rose and his father know that a lot depends on his performance at the European Tour qualifying school next week, when he will attempt to win his card for the 1999 season

Ken Rose climbed out of the blue BMW in the car park at the North Hants golf club and wore his usual friendly smile. But Justin, his son, who was alongside him, looked different...

Such gawdiness had not been evident when he was finishing fourth in the Open, after which he immediately turned professional. At that time, Rose was 17 and able to drive, but too young to vote...

Rose relaxed about going back to school

contract with a leading manufacturer is imminent. He failed to win enough money from seven tournaments into which he had entry to guarantee himself a place on the European Tour in 1999...

thing, not even missing seven cuts. I am disappointed, but I feel stronger for it. Now I feel I am no longer in a tumble-drier going round and round and then being hung out to dry...

golfers are as frightening as the word "Macheth" is to an actor. Rose is ready for the pain in Spain. He leaves on Thursday with a new driver with a heavier swingweight — D6 instead of D0 — and will use his old blade irons...

room. Rose looked up and beamed. A waitress was heading towards him with an enormous plate of eggs, ham and chips. He wolfed them down, declined a pudding or coffee and, hoisting his bag on to his shoulders, headed out for the practice ground.

When he goes on to that television programme, On the Line, and he has been outstanding. Michael Johnson was on with him and he has been taught what to do. Justin was just as good as he was. The telephone never stopped ringing after that with people wanting to say how impressed they were with Justin's performance...

SPORT IN BRIEF

Paris win pushes Rusedski to No 11

Greg Rusedski has moved up from No 13 to No 11 in the latest world rankings after his victory in the Paris Indoor Open.

Henman and Rusedski are fighting for a place in the ATP world championships in Hanover later this month and their cause was aided when Richard Krajicek underwent surgery on his left knee on Monday...

Suzanne Horner, the second string, make the team's ambitions of winning the gold medal very difficult. Sue Wridley, the British champion, leads for England...

Cricket: Javagal Srinath and Ajit Agarkar, the India opening bowlers, triggered a collapse by the Sri Lanka batsmen and set up an 81-run win in the Champions' Trophy in Sharjah.

Motor Sport: Laurent Aiello has landed the coveted drive alongside David Leslie with Nissan in the 1999 British Touring Car Championship.

Football: Liverpool under pressure for retaining European Cup.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Table listing football fixtures for various leagues including Football League, Premier League, and others.

RUGBY UNION: WORLD CHAMPIONS SCENT REVENGE AS THEY AIM TO IMPOSE THEMSELVES FROM THE START OF THEIR TOUR

South Africans on alert Quinnell clear for Wales

SOUTH AFRICA last played a Scottish representative side four years ago and were embarrassed in the Borders, losing 17-15 to Scotland A at Melrose. Admittedly, they went on to beat Scotland at Murrayfield four days later...

ber of that victorious Scotland A team, alongside Kevin McKenzie and Derek Stark. Jardine said: "Those of us who played in that match still talk about it to this day. It was a wonderful experience."

Wales: P O Howarth (Sale), G Thomas (Cardiff), I G Gibbs (Gwent), M Taylor (Swansea), P J Jones (Pontypridd), N R Jenkins (Pontypridd), R Howley (Cardiff), A L P Lewis (Cardiff), J M Humphreys (Cardiff), C T Anthony (Swansea), J C Quinnell (Richmond), C West (Llanelli), G L Christie (Swansea), M S Williams (Pontypridd), L S Quinnell (Richmond), R Phillips (Cardiff), N R Jones (Cardiff), M G Andrew (Neath), J Evans (Free State), A G Walters (Free State), B Williams (Richmond), B Evans (Swansea), D Morris (Swansea), M Voyle (Llanelli)

FIRHILL LINE-UP table listing players for Glasgow Caledonians and other teams.

WEMBLEY LINE-UP table listing players for South Africa and other teams.

WEMBLEY LINE-UP table listing players for Wales and other teams.

Large advertisement for 'PAINT WITHOUT' featuring a dark background with the text 'PAINT WITHOUT' in large, bold letters. Includes a small logo at the bottom right.

هكذا من الأصل

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, featuring the name 'Hoddle' and 'shelve'.



SPORT IN BRIEF

Paris win pushes Rusedski to No 11

TENNIS: Greg Rusedski has moved up from No 13 to No 11 in the latest world rankings after his victory in the Paris Indoor Open.

England began their campaign in the women's world team championship with a 3-0 win over Spain in qualifying pool B in Stuttgart.

CRICKET: Javagal Srinath and Anurag Kulkarni, the India bowling duo, triggered a collapse in Sri Lanka.

MOTOR SPORT: Laurent Audoire finished the coveted drive alongside David Leslie with victory in the 1998 Renault Formula 1 Championship.

OF THEIR TOUR

or Wales

Three of the world's best players are expected to be in Cardiff for the Wales tour.

IT ONLINE

Hodde tries to shelve Merson retirement plans

GLENN HODDE, the England coach, is thought to have taken pre-emptive steps to dissuade Paul Merson, the Aston Villa forward, from announcing his retirement from international football.



Merson: fringe player

Liverpool under fire for retaining Evans

THERE is nothing quite like the scent of a crisis to stir the blood of ageing footballers and, with Liverpool edging ever closer to the precipice, their preparation for the potentially season-defining Worthington Cup fourth-round match with Tottenham Hotspur tonight was in danger of being drowned out by the hard words of some distinguished old-boys yesterday.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: LEADING TEAMS MANAGE TO SECURE VICTORIES DESPITE LOSING FIRST-CHOICE QUARTERBACKS

THEY lost their unbeaten record unexpectedly last week, against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, and, on Sunday, the Minnesota Vikings must have thought that the fates were determined to do their worst again.

FOR THE RECORD

Table with multiple columns: American Football, Cricket, Football, Golf, Tennis, Netball, Squash, Schools Sport. Lists results and statistics for various sports.



Chapman, both goalkeeper and chairman, clears his lines in the match against Bedford. Photograph: Adrian Sherratt

Elliott drives Ford forward

THE road to riches that leads Ford United to Deepdale for the FA Cup first-round tie against Preston North End on Saturday began on the rocks of adversity.

Walter Gammie charts the rise of a club on its uppers two years ago. Amid a whirl of unaccustomed celebrity, local fund-raising to pay for the trip to Preston and negotiations to ensure they return with a shirt signed by Tom Finney as a souvenir, an FA Carlsberg Vase fixture against Bedford last Saturday brought every-one firmly back to earth.

Brave Johnson defies injury to keep Vikings shipshape

BY OLIVER HOLT. The ball after I got the injury, but if I hadn't been able to throw it, I would have pulled myself out. I had praced left-handed passing all spring and that worked out for me today.

POOL FORECAST

Table with columns for dates and pool forecasts for various events.

FREE SPORTSBAG advertisement for William Hill, offering a free sports bag for first-time telephone callers.

ATHLETICS

New run to twin best of British

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE biggest marathon in Britain is the Flora London Marathon. No surprises there. But which is the second-most popular among British runners?

Before the Manchester, Nottingham and Poteries marathons phone in to lay claim, the answer is New York. No marathon in Britain, other than London, attracts as many British runners as the 2,000-plus who participate in New York.

That will change next year if the team behind the Puma Edinburgh Marathon, which was launched yesterday, can convert promise into reality. The target is 5,000 entries for the inaugural race on September 26 and, by claiming to have a fast, flat course, the race organisers expect the first two to be sharper than all British marathons, bar London.

The route is scenic, but will the leaders have time to notice? In the interests of quick performances, at least one, and possibly both, principal guidelines that the sports uses to judge whether courses are fair will be breached. 'Within the first two years, we are going to see a sub 2hr 10min marathon,' Norrie Williamson, the course designer, said. 'If it is a day like today [with gale-force winds], it could well be a 2:06 marathon.'

Like the Boston Marathon, Edinburgh's start and finish are 100 ft apart to be within the guidelines designed to prevent wind-assisted marathon records. If start and finish are more than approximately eight miles apart, a course can be deemed to benefit from tailwind. If the drop is more than 42 metres, it is regarded as downhill. Williamson said the drop for Edinburgh was not yet known, but that it might be more than 42 metres. London is 31 metres.

From the event's £250,000 budget, prize and appearance money have to be paid. It is questionable whether the event will have the financial clout to attract a number of prominent, world-class athletes, which is its stated intent, but, once word spreads that Edinburgh is scenic and fast, the first mass-participation marathon in Scotland for 12 years may do well.

Beginning and ending in the ancient and modern capitals, Dumfries and Edinburgh, the course takes in the Forth Road Bridge, the Royal Mile and passes through the heart of Holyrood Palace. Steve Smythe, who has run 53 marathons and is the race services editor for Runner's World, said: 'It is the first new marathon for a long time in which I have wanted to compete.'

Geoff Wightman, the former Commonwealth Games marathon runner, now Puma promotions manager, said: 'We came here to build a fast course and the fact that it is scenic is a bonus. Here is the autumn event to complement London. It will have atmosphere, a spectacular course and potential for personal best times. Why go anywhere else?'

Table with columns for pool forecasts and other sports results.



Need to shoot some dope? Make it a pop star

If you have been following Rush's 50 Years of Drugs in Britain...

looks who fall for heroin. It is very often smart, but despairing, fools.

showing signs of addiction. These were not rich Bohemians, those are not latter-day William Burroughs.



Joe Joseph

use for the Government, says that the social and cultural map of drug use in Britain would be barely recognisable...

When you glimpse what life is like in the fictional northern town of Stanton...

Madness, who created Father Ted. These expecting something as magically mad as Father Ted...

documentary, showing today and... Peter Wayne

documentary programme consisting... Peter Baran

WORLD SERVICE... Peter Baran

CLASSIC FM...

VIDEO Plus+ and VIDEO Plus+... Peter Baran

For further listings see Saturday's Vision... Peter Baran

Empire of the Sun... Peter Baran

SKY MOVIEMAX... Peter Baran

SKY SPORTS 1... Peter Baran

SKY SPORTS 2... Peter Baran

BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast... Peter Baran

10.05 City Hospital... Peter Baran

11.55 News... Peter Baran

12.00 Pass the Buck... Peter Baran

12.00am New... Peter Baran

1.00 News... Peter Baran

1.30 Regional News... Peter Baran

1.40 Neighbours... Peter Baran

1.50 Wipeout... Peter Baran

1.55 Wipeout... Peter Baran

BBC2 6.10am Population Transition... Peter Baran

7.00 The Little Polar Bear... Peter Baran

12.30 Working Lunch... Peter Baran

4.00 Change That... Peter Baran

6.00 The Fresh Prince... Peter Baran

6.25 Halfway High... Peter Baran

7.10 The O Zone... Peter Baran

7.30 Just One Chance... Peter Baran

8.00 University Challenge... Peter Baran

8.30 Della's How to Cook... Peter Baran

HTV 6.00am GMTV... Peter Baran

9.25 Trisha... Peter Baran

10.15 This Morning... Peter Baran

12.30 News... Peter Baran

1.00 Shortland Street... Peter Baran

1.30 Home and Away... Peter Baran

2.40 Dule's Supermarket Swoop... Peter Baran

3.10 News... Peter Baran

3.20 Wazadors... Peter Baran

4.00 News... Peter Baran

CENTRAL As HTV West except... Peter Baran

1.00pm Echo Point... Peter Baran

1.30 The Jerry Springer Show... Peter Baran

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street... Peter Baran

6.25-7.00 Central News... Peter Baran

7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country... Peter Baran

11.40 Central Sports Special... Peter Baran

12.45am The Haunted Flat... Peter Baran

1.15 Planet Rock Profiles... Peter Baran

1.45 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol... Peter Baran

CHANNEL 4 6.00am Sesame Street... Peter Baran

9.00 Schools: Science in Focus... Peter Baran

9.20 Book Box Poetry... Peter Baran

9.45 Stop Look... Peter Baran

10.05 TVM Number Crew... Peter Baran

10.25 How Live to Live... Peter Baran

10.45 Quest... Peter Baran

11.30 Powerhouse... Peter Baran

11.35 The Big Breakfast... Peter Baran

12.00 The Big Breakfast... Peter Baran

CHANNEL 5 CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE... Peter Baran

6.00am 5 News and Sport... Peter Baran

6.00am 5 News and Sport... Peter Baran

9.00 The Great Garden Game... Peter Baran

10.20 Sunset Beach... Peter Baran

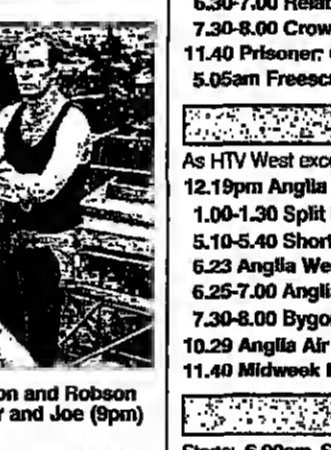
12.30pm Family Affairs... Peter Baran

3.30 On Fire... Peter Baran

5.20 The Roseanne Show... Peter Baran

6.00 100 Per Cent... Peter Baran

7.00 Wild World... Peter Baran



Stephen Tompkinson and Robson Green star as Trevor and Joe (9pm)

9.00 Grafters Joe struggles to keep a secret from Trevor (9.00pm)

10.00 News (7) and weather (7.29pm)

10.30 Regional News (5.49pm)

10.40 Teen Spirit Teenage attitudes to money and body image (10.40pm)

11.40 WALES: A Night on Broadway... Peter Baran

11.40 Remegade... Peter Baran

12.40am The Haunted Flat... Peter Baran

1.10 Planet Rock Profiles... Peter Baran

1.40 News... Peter Baran

12.15-12.30 Meridian News and Weather... Peter Baran

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (4.10pm)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (4.00)

6.30-7.00 Relative Knowledge (8.55)

7.30-8.00 Crown and Country (8.6)

11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block B (3.36pm)

1.00-1.30 Split Second (7.12pm)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (4.10pm)

6.23 Anglia Weather (9.10pm)

6.25-7.00 Anglia News (4.00pm)

SATELLITE AND CABLE



The beasts are back on the rampage in Steven Spielberg's blockbuster sequel, The Last World: Jurassic Park (Sky Office 3)

CARLTON SELECT (CABLE) 5.00pm Birds of a Feather... Peter Baran

DISNEY CHANNEL 6.00am Bear in the Big Blue House... Peter Baran

FOX KIDS NETWORK 6.00am Power Rangers Turbo... Peter Baran

6.00am The Power Rangers Turbo... Peter Baran

6.00am The Power Rangers Turbo... Peter Baran

HOME & LEISURE 6.00am The Joy of Painting... Peter Baran

6.00am The Joy of Painting... Peter Baran

6.00am The Joy of Painting... Peter Baran

THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00 Civil War... Peter Baran

4.00 Civil War... Peter Baran

4.00 Civil War... Peter Baran

Advertisement for 'The Musical' with images and promotional text.

GOLF 48

Blooming Rose prepares to go back to school

SPORT

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10 1998

CRICKET 50

Stewart struggling to find form as Ashes battle looms



Striker faces lengthy absence Chelsea move swiftly to fill Casiraghi gap

By OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THE roll-call of leading surgeons that strikes a knell in every player's heart was being read out for Pierluigi Casiraghi yesterday as it became clear that Chelsea are beginning to fear that their striker may be ruled out of football for up to a year because of the serious knee injury that he sustained against West Ham United at Upton Park on Sunday.

Chelsea's cosmopolitan ranks will also be boosted by the addition of Bjarne Goldbaek, the FC Copenhagen midfielder player, who scored against them in the first leg of their Cup Winners' Cup second-round tie at Stamford Bridge last month and who will cost about £300,000. He will wear the No 7 shirt vacated by Brian Laudrup, who has moved in the opposite direction.

Most of the burden, though, is likely to fall on the broad shoulders of Tore Andre Flo, the Norwegian striker, who many feel should have been in the starting line-up instead of Casiraghi anyway. Flo is likely to play in attack with Gianfranco Zola, leaving only Gianluca Vialli, their player-manager, and the relatively untested Mark Nicholls as cover.

It was immediately apparent that the injury was serious and an exploratory operation today will reveal the exact nature of the damage, but the club is already making plans for a long, laborious rehabilitation.

Chelsea hope that the operation to repair the damage will be performed by the end of this week, either by David Dandy, the Cambridge surgeon, who helped Alan Shearer to recover from his cruciate injury, or by John King, the London specialist. It is also possible that Casiraghi may fly to Colorado for surgery and Chelsea are also planning to allow him to return to Italy to speed his convalescence.

Casiraghi's misfortune capped a miserable start to his Premiership career. He scored just once, an opportunistic goal against Liverpool at Anfield, in Chelsea's ten league games. He did not lack for effort, but luck seemed continually against him as a succession of shots and headers rebounded off every part of the crossbar and goalposts.

After an initial scan on the Italian international forward yesterday, the fear is that Casiraghi has ruptured cruciate ligaments in his knee and damaged nerves.

Most of the burden, though, is likely to fall on the broad shoulders of Tore Andre Flo, the Norwegian striker, who many feel should have been in the starting line-up instead of Casiraghi anyway.

Now, they may be forced to delve into the transfer market again and further inflate an already bulging wage bill. Vialli is still a fine player, but his managerial duties would be an impediment to him competing more regularly and he may feel that he needs to buy another striker to exert pressure on Flo and Zola.

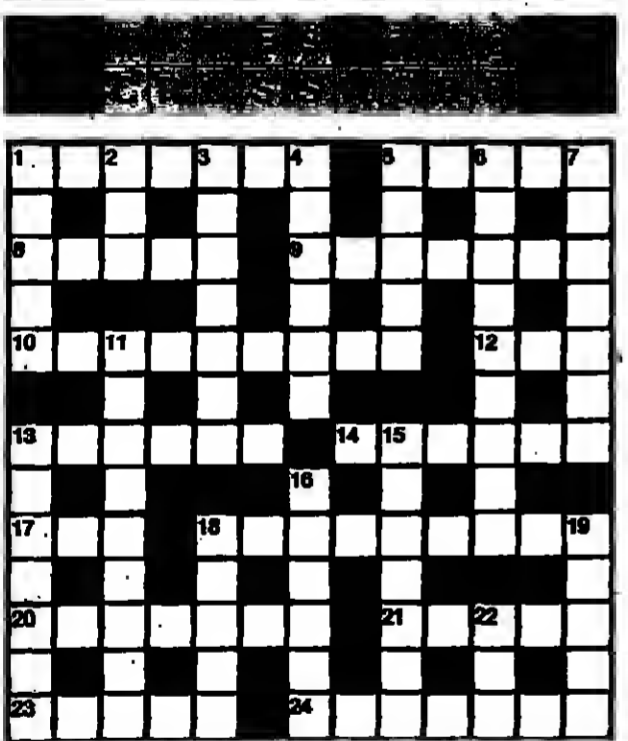
As they came to terms with the loss of the man who be-

came their record signing when he joined them from Lazio for £5.4 million in the summer, Chelsea moved quickly to try to plug the gap.

The irony, of course, is that in a matter of days Chelsea have been robbed of what was an embarrassment of riches.



Casiraghi leaves Charing Cross Hospital yesterday. He will undergo an exploratory operation today



No 1559

- ACROSS 1 Aircraft engine cover (7) 2 Beam-bouncing detection method (5) 3 Bundle of corn (5) 4 (Disease) native to area (7) 5 An artificial language (9) 6 Sharp cutter (5) 7 Clergyman (6) 8 Prospective clothes-have strings (6) 9 A constellation: various Popes (3) 10 In love: Tiana is, of an axe (9) 11 Location: place of duty post (7) 12 Feathered weapon (5) 13 Prone to bear effort, pressure (5) 14 Shake (7) DOWN 1 (Hereditary) layer of society (5) 2 Misery (5) 3 Ragging fire (7) 4 An elopement's Green (6) 5 Cowboy show (5) 6 Personal manner, bearing (9) 7 Dins: a game (7) 8 Vote in name of (another) (9) 9 Fur-lined cloak (7) 10 Secular; disrespectful to religion (7) 11 A gemstone: sounds like an Ali (6) 12 Turn out of home (5) 13 Use rod to find water (5) 14 To chafe (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1558 ACROSS: 2 Sensible 6 Savant 8 Subtle 9 Cabbage 10 Scrup 12 Westward Ho! 16 Open Sesame 18 Rhine 20 Lumatic 21 Claque 22 Set out 23 Everyone DOWN: 1 Parapet 2 Stagnate 3 Squash 4 Biter 5 Eucrypt 7 Ambition 11 Constant 13 Disguise 14 Impious 15 Creche 17 Pentury 19 Image

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Adams, treasurer of the West Indies Players' Association, sees no reason to be cheerful during a break in negotiations

West Indies players to go through with tour

By PAT GIBSON AND JOHN GOODBODY

THE West Indies cricketers will be touring South Africa this winter. After six days of courtship, a deal was finally reached last night between the rebel players and the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) at a Heathrow hotel.

The agreement followed nearly 20 hours of negotiations, which were sparked off last Wednesday when Brian Lara, the captain, and Carl Hooper, his vice-captain, were dismissed.

The players, who were demanding more money and better conditions for the 34-month tour, backed Lara and Hooper and refused to go. The 16 players were last night packing their bags and preparing to leave their hotel for Johannesburg, where they are expected to take part in the opening game against Gauteng in Soweto tomorrow.

Last-minute hitches held up the deal and forced the opening game against an Oppenheimer XI in Johannesburg, which was scheduled to be played today, to be cancelled.

With Ali Bacher, the managing director of the South African board, who had flown to London last Friday, trying to reconcile the opposing sides, there had seemed to be a breakthrough at 2am yesterday, when the negotiators went to bed.

Pat Rousseau, the WICB president, believed that a deal had been agreed. However, when the 16 players, who were staying in a different hotel 500 yards away, did not turn up at 10.30am yesterday as scheduled, it was clear that further obstacles were preventing any deal.

than a full strength side. We owe it to our sponsors, viewers and advertisers." The five Test matches are projected to attract 300,000 spectators and the seven one-day games are guaranteed sell-outs.

Bacher has made it clear that Lara's presence is essential. He said: "The black population will come to watch the West Indies, but they will still support the South African boys. Lara is vital to the tour. He's been to the townships. He's done good work there."

At 5pm yesterday, a West Indies flag was raised behind a desk for an imminent press conference in the Connaught Suite of the Radisson Edwardian Hotel, where the negotiations were taking place. However, there was no announcement and the negotiators and the players were up against a tight deadline. The last flight to Johannesburg was due to leave at 9.45pm. The first four-day game, against Griqualand West, is due to begin in Kimberley on Saturday.

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Dallaglio misses England opener

By DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND will start their international campaign this season without Lawrence Dallaglio, their captain. Dallaglio twisted his knee playing for Wasps at Northampton on Saturday and will miss the World Cup qualifying game against The Netherlands in Huddersfield on Saturday, leaving Martin Johnson to lead the side for the first time.

Quinnell set for Wales 48

the hope of playing against the Italians on November 22. He leaves the team in capable hands; Johnson led the British Isles to victory against South Africa last year and has been in wonderful form for Leicester this season. Martin Corry, also of Leicester, has been added to the squad as back-five cover. Woodward will name his team to play The Netherlands on Thursday.

The training squad was pruned down to 33 yesterday, leaving Sale free to select Barrie-Jon Mather for their Allied Dunbar Premiership game with West Hartlepool on Friday, while George Chuter, of Saracens, Ben Surnham, of Bath, and the injured Darren Crompton, of Richmond, can also return to their clubs.

Anthony Sullivan, Cardiff's recruit from St Helens rugby league club, must put his international hopes on hold; after two games of club rugby union, Sullivan was overlooked for the Wales side to play South Africa on Saturday.

ENGLAND SQUAD: Backs: M Best (Northampton), M Perry (Bath), T Bana (Sale), O Linger (Huddersfield), T Underwood (Newcastle), S Brown (Richmond), D Hogg (Sale), P de Gier (Bath), W Greenwood (Leicester), J Guscott (Bath), J Thompson (Saracens), M Call (Bath), P Grayson (Northampton), K Brookes (Saracens), M Dawson (Northampton), A Hewley (Leicester), Forwards: O Garforth (Leicester), W Green (Hull), J Leonard (Hartlepool), G Brownlee (Leicester), R Cockerill (Leicester), P Greening (Sale), A Long (Bath), G Archer (Newcastle), D Greenwood (Saracens), M Johnson (Leicester), T Boshier (Northampton), M Best (Leicester), B Clarke (Richmond), L Dallaglio (Wasps), R Hill (Saracens), M Corry (Leicester), A Diprose (Saracens)

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